

Government pumps in £220m to save and create jobs

It is to spend a further £220m on saving and the measures, with those announced last year, provide about 140,000 jobs or training places. £55m is allocated for industrial schemes, £50m

for improving public-sector housing, £30m for the job-creation scheme, and £55m to provide 30,000 to 35,000 extra training places in industry. The temporary employment subsidy is extended from six to 12 months.

Employment subsidy extended: £55m for training

Other jobs. Over the coming financial year the net effect on unemployment figures might be 70,000 jobs or training places.

The details are as follows: Industry: A further £55m allocated to improve the country's industrial base, for new schemes such as printing machinery and non-ferrous foundries, and to make available further funds for existing schemes, particularly ferrous foundries.

An additional £1m allocated to the Development Commission for the construction of small factories in rural areas during the next 12 months.

Finance for the stockpiling of machine tools of types that are expected to be needed during the economic recovery lying in prospect. The National Enterprise Board will discuss with the machine tool industry the possibility of making arrangements to maintain capacity and provide employment during the remaining months of the recession.

Construction: A further £50m to be concentrated on the improvement of public sector housing, which can be started quickly and finished before the beginning of April, 1977. The measure is intended to succour an industry badly affected by the recession, and at the same time to make a social contribution by improving the stock of public housing.

Manpower: The temporary employment subsidy is extended from six to 12 months. The subsidy, begun in August, 1975, provides £10 a week for each worker whose employer agreed to postpone a redundancy of up to 25 more workers. The minimum size of a qualifying redundancy is also reduced from 25 to 10 workers. Total cost, £16m.

The school-leaver recruitment subsidy is extended to those who left school at Christmas, 1975. The scheme had been limited to those who left school last summer or before. It provides their employers with a recruitment grant of £5 a week for each recruit for 26 weeks. Total cost, £245,000.

A further £30m for the job-creation scheme. That follows £40m for schemes approved by the end of June.

For training, another £55m, for which the Manpower Services Commission has put forward proposals to provide from next August between 30,000 and 35,000 extra training places in industry. About £45m applies to new first-year apprenticeship training; the rest to second-year apprentices and schemes for non-craft training of the kind being considered by the engineering industry.

The Treasury estimates that 55,000 workers will be covered by the temporary employment subsidy scheme. There should be up to 20,000 to 25,000 more temporary jobs under the job-creation scheme.

The Chancellor came to the Commons with the air of a minister who expected to be attacked for persisting with cosmetic measures rather than a deep-seated attack on unemployment. In the event he had to provide the employers with their own left-wing critics behind him or the public expenditure vigilantes facing him on the Conservative benches.

On the Labour side, his help for the machine-tool industry and for the stimulus to the machine-tool firms was openly

welcomed, and the statutory Tribunal group pressure for immediate import controls did not seriously develop, although only the night before an influential Labour group within the Parliamentary Labour Party had rallied to the cause.

The P.L.D. finance and economic group had had before them a Transport House paper demanding import controls. Mr. Healey, once himself a research head at Transport House, dealt harshly with his successors: "I do ask my hon. friends to recognize that import controls on the scale recommended by junior officials at Transport House would certainly lead to massive retaliation from which world trade as a whole would suffer, and as the poorer countries in the world would suffer most of all."

Not was that all. Mr. Healey scornfully said that the Transport House calculations of the employment effect of import controls, as quoted in the newspapers yesterday morning, were "grossly exaggerated".

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TUC welcome, page 17



Frank Stagg: Death after 61-day fast.

IRA man starves to death

By Clive Borrell and David Leigh

Armed policemen stood guard last night at the mortuary where the body of Frank Stagg, a Provisional IRA staff officer who died yesterday after a 61-day hunger strike, is being kept while inquest and funeral arrangements are being made.

Mr. Stagg, aged 34, died at dawn in the hospital wing of Wakefield prison, West Yorkshire. His wife, Mrs. Bridie Stagg, was with him and later went with his mother to the mortuary.

The death came in a nationwide police alert because of fears that the Provisional IRA might renew the bombing in England and Northern Ireland in retaliation.

It was made when Mr. Stagg was placed on the danger list as his strength began to fail, that his death would be avenged by renewed terrorist attacks were being viewed gravely in London, Wakefield and the city of Coventry. The police told the public, especially in those areas, to be on their guard, and said motorists should inspect their vehicles before setting off.

Scotland Yard said: "We ask everyone to be vigilant and if they see anything suspicious to tell the police immediately. Lives could be in danger."

An inquest will probably be held tomorrow. Mr. Derek Highstead, national organizer of Sinn Féin, is handling the funeral arrangements. Mr. Stagg died last night. Although he had been on the list of his Dublin lawyers, in his cell that the movement should provide him with a military funeral in the Irish Republic.

Mr. Highstead, who was allowed into the prison before Mr. Stagg's death, is the hope that Provisional Sinn Féin would urge him to end his hunger strike, was staying at Wakefield yesterday.

Mrs. Bridget Donohue, one of Mr. Stagg's sisters, said in Wakefield last night: "Although we realized for weeks it could happen I never thought it would." Mr. Stagg's wife had taken it very badly, she said, and was extremely distressed.

Before Mr. Stagg's death his family expressed a variety of feelings, ranging from wishes that there would be retaliatory bombings to calls to his wife to urge him to give up. Another sister, Mrs. Veronica Phillips, said before his death that she hoped there would be no act of revenge, and a brother, Emmett Stagg, aged 31, said: "If Frank dies the responsibility will rest squarely on the Provisional leadership."

Continued on page 2, col 4

Royal commission to study lawyers' services and fees

By Marcel Berlins

A royal commission on lawyers and legal services, with wide terms of reference including solicitors' monopoly of conveyancing, is to be set up, the Prime Minister announced in the Commons yesterday. The chairman has not yet been appointed, but he will not be a member of the legal profession.

The full terms of reference are: "To inquire into the law and practice relating to the provision of legal services in England and Wales and to consider whether any, and if so what, changes are desirable in the public interest in the structure, organization, training, regulation of and entry to the legal profession, including the arrangements for determining its remuneration, whether from public sources or public funds, and in the rules which prevent persons who are neither barristers nor solicitors from undertaking conveyancing and other legal business on behalf of other persons."

The appointment of the royal commission was against the advice of the Lord Chancellor, Lord Elwyn-Jones. It came after a parliamentary campaign, led by Mr. Jack Ashley, Labour MP for Stoke-on-Trent, South, and supported by legal organizations and some legal and other publications.

Mr. Ashley warmly welcomed the commission, but asked the Prime Minister to ensure that most of its members were not lawyers, and that urgent reforms already being considered should not be delayed.

Mr. Wilson replied that there would be full consultation about its membership. The work of the Law Commission and reforms under way would not be affected. He emphasized that the royal commission would have power to submit

interim reports on matters that it felt were particularly urgent. He added that urgent consideration would be given to appointing a similar commission, or some other form of inquiry, on legal services in Scotland, which, because of the different legal system, was not included.

On Tuesday a joint statement of the Law Society and the Bar said that the two branches of the profession would welcome a royal commission. Yesterday Mr. Edmund Lligst, president of the Law Society, said: "At last we shall have the opportunity to dispel misconceptions and place the facts before an independent inquiry."

"A thorough examination of all the material factors will, I am confident, vindicate the lawyers of this country and demonstrate the paramount importance of the strong and independent legal profession."

Sir Peter Rawlinson, Q.C., chairman of the Bar, said at a Council of Legal Education dinner last night that the royal commission would give the profession a chance to expose the falseness and superficiality of many of the current fashionable criticisms. It should not, however, prejudice important and urgent reforms in trial procedure, substantive law, and the fairer distribution of public funds by way of legal aid.

He also gave a warning against the commission's leading to the domination of the independent lawyer and his translation into a creature of the state.

Do-it-yourself: Mr. Kenneth Weir, Labour M.P. for Ipswich, who yesterday attacked a new do-it-yourself manual on selling a house, produced by a non-solicitor conveyancing firm, gave a guarded welcome to the announcement of the royal commission.

Parliamentary report, page 4

Patients vote to compromise

will not and health rate practice of 3 voted to 3 proposed Good-44 to one agency-only

Precautions on locum doctors

Stricter control of the use of locum doctors is recommended by an independent committee, set up by the British Medical Association, Health Authority. The committee was set up after a fatal anaesthetic accident at Orpington Hospital.

Vatican criticized by Dr Coggan

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Coggan, in an interview published today, described the Vatican's recent statement on sexual ethics as "somewhat lacking in pastoral guidance and tenderness".

Frenchman had £365 benefits

A Frenchman who had £365 in social security benefits since arriving in Britain last October was recommended for deportation by Southend magistrates yesterday.

Lionel Goubin, aged 23, who admitted stealing sausages and colas valued at 62p from a store, was conditionally discharged for 12 months.

Academic independence: Polytechnics and colleges of further education would be given the same independence as universities under proposals being considered by Conservatives.

Battered wives: Better protection for battered wives is proposed in a private member's Bill due for second reading today.

Paris: President Giscard's belief that Europe lacks capacity of decision emerges in talks with Herr Schmidt.

Belgrade: Yugoslav newspaper expresses anger over article by Bernard Levin on lawyer's prosecution.

Peking: Poster campaign attacking Mr. Teng reveals strains among party leaders.

advertisers, some of them tell us freely what they earn.

Winter Olympic Games: Czechoslovak ice hockey team penalized; Soviet Union dominates women's cross-country relay.

Football: FA Cup fifth round match postponed; Rugby Union: Gibson asks to be relieved of Irish captaincy; Racing: Newbury prospects and Huntington report.

Business News, pages 17-23

Stock markets: Shares were quiet ahead of the Chancellor's statement on unemployment. The FT Index lost 0.3 to close at 400.0.

Financial Editor: Why ICI might need more capital; cautionary tale from Serck; Industrial finance: Electra Investment Trust.

Business features: Short-term jobs and training to ease manpower problems; Christopher Thomas: Benefits to industry from Chancellor's proposals; Maurice Corbin.

Business Diary: Manilla's scramble to be re-elected; September's IMF/World Bank meeting.

Diary: Engagements 14, Features 7, Law Report 15, Letters 15, Obituary 4, Parliament Sale Room 16.

Rail town is last hurdle in MPLA's advance

Luanda, Feb. 12.—Silva Porto, the last but one big town in southern Angola held by the pro-Western Unita movement, fell today to the Cuban and Soviet-backed forces of the Popular Movement (MPLA).

This leaves the railway town of Luso as the only centre of any significance still in Unita hands. Besides Silva Porto, the MPLA today also captured Mocim da Casa, the country's southernmost port, and Maquela do Zombo, a town 25 miles from the border with Zaire, in northern Angola.

In the north São Salvador is now the only important town outside MPLA control.

Radio Luanda said Unita and South African forces had retreated rapidly ahead of the MPLA's armoured columns' advance, and had already abandoned Sampa Pinto and Pereira d'Eca, only 65 miles from the Namibian border. In the 24 hours up to last night, the MPLA's Cuban-led columns sped 180 miles southwards, meeting almost no resistance.

From Johannesburg it was reported that MPLA troops were only 133 miles from South Africa's "guarding" the Ruacana and Caluque hydro-electric installations in southern Angola.

In a statement today outlining Angolan foreign policy after its admission yesterday to the Organization of African Unity (OAU), Mr. Lopo do Nascimento, the Prime Minister of the MPLA's Government in Luanda, said: "Our independence, the fruit of the efforts of our people and of international solidarity demands from us a policy of solidarity with the brother peoples of Africa still under colonial domination, notably in Namibia, Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) and South Africa."

Windhoek, South-West Africa: MPLA jet fighters intercepted a civilian airliner flying to Windhoek and forced it to land in Angola. South West African Airways said here.

The 44-seat Fairchild was being flown by two Americans but was carrying no passengers when it was intercepted off the Angolan coast yesterday afternoon. The airline was trying to establish precisely where it had landed.

Reuter. A six-member British medical team is safe and continuing its work in the southern Angolan town of Vouga, overrun last night by the MPLA, the Red Cross said here.

Mercenaries cleared, page 6

Will S Africa fight? page 14

Human rights may be guaranteed by law

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

An indication that the Government is taking seriously the possibility of introducing human rights legislation was given last night by Mr. Jenkins, Home Secretary.

Guaranteeing human rights was a question of mounting concern, he told the Birmingham Law Society. The Government had studied "this important subject" and the two main political parties were also making their own studies.

"Human rights legislation would affect every person in this country and I should like to see a discussion extend more widely than the legal profession," Mr. Jenkins said.

The Government's interests in the subject were apparent from a number of recent initiatives, Mr. Jenkins said. The Home Office, Lord Chancellor's Department, Law Officers' Department, Lord Advocate's Department, in Scotland, and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

There is no firm date by which the officials have to report back to ministers, who are keeping options open. Mr. Jenkins said last night that the questions were complex and did

not lead to a predictable answer.

"At the end of the day we must decide that basic human rights are already adequately protected here, or that they could be adequately protected without any radical innovation."

"Or we might see a clear need for new constitutional and legal developments in keeping with the spirit of our traditions, but reaching beyond the limits set by our existing institutions."

"At the present stage, we should try to ensure that study and discussion take account of all the relevant factors."

Like other members of the EEC, Britain was bound by the provisions of the European Convention, and since 1956 our obligations had been extended to allow complainants to petition the European Commission of Human Rights at Strasbourg about any alleged violation here of their convention rights.

It had been suggested that Britain should strengthen the effectiveness of her obligations by incorporating the convention into domestic law.

"People who thought that their rights under the convention had been infringed would then be able to seek a remedy first before the United Kingdom courts, and only in the last resort before the commission in Strasbourg."

However, Mr. Jenkins said: "Parliament is and will remain at the centre of our arrangements for protecting human rights."

Leading article, page 15

Terminal illness Bill fails

By Hugh Noyes

Parliamentary Correspondent

Lady Wootton of Abinger's Incurable Patients Bill failed to get a second reading in the Lords yesterday by 85 votes to 23, a majority against the Bill of 62. Introducing the Bill, Lady Wootton said it was a measure aimed at relieving the suffering of incurable patients and not a measure to kill them.

From the government front bench Lord Wells-Pestell said that although the Government did not intend to make a careful consideration it could not support the Bill.

Lord George-Brown said he had seen his father, a dignified, honourable and distinguished man, dying a most undignified way. Lord George-Brown said he would have been ready to administer not only the last rites but the end of his father's life.

Parliamentary report, page 4

Council is unable to fix 1976-77 rate

By John Young

Planning Reporter

Bexley Borough Council is unable to fix a rate for the coming financial year because the district auditor has so far refused to pass its accounts for 1975-76. It is seeking to place £1m in a contingency fund to cover any previously hidden expenditure that may be revealed later.

Those disclosures are contained in a supposedly secret report by the council's director of finance, Mr. Derek Phillips. The report uncovers what can only be described as a story of extraordinary mismanagement, including the fact that the last time monthly expenditure was checked with the bank was in March, 1973.

The deterioration in the financial services has now reached proportions when I need my chief finance officer to have any great confidence in the figures being put forward," Mr. Phillips states.

The report largely blames staff shortages, a sentiment echoed by Labour councillors, who have frequently accused the Conservative majority of meanness. The council has shown "repeated inability to recruit, train, motivate and retain a competent staff of the calibre required," it says.

It adds that on March 31 last year the council was owed about £1.5m in unpaid rates and nearly £200,000 in rent arrears. Mr. Julian Hargreaves, the council leader, said last night: "The situation is a mess, but we shall recover. We were warned that our financial management was totally inadequate as long ago as last October, and that services were stretched to near breaking-point."

Financial experts would examine the situation, however, there was no evidence of fraud.

Over 60,000 in Britain down with influenza

It is estimated that well over 60,000 people in Britain have influenza.

In London, all general hospitals have gone on "yellow alert", the first of two stages in an epidemic warning system.

The Department of Health said last night: "Our latest figures show that 79 people died in the week ended February 6. That is well above the previous week, when there were 32 victims, and the expected average of 52. But it is still well below the level we call the alert threshold."

Some schools in the Leicester and Northampton areas have been forced to close.

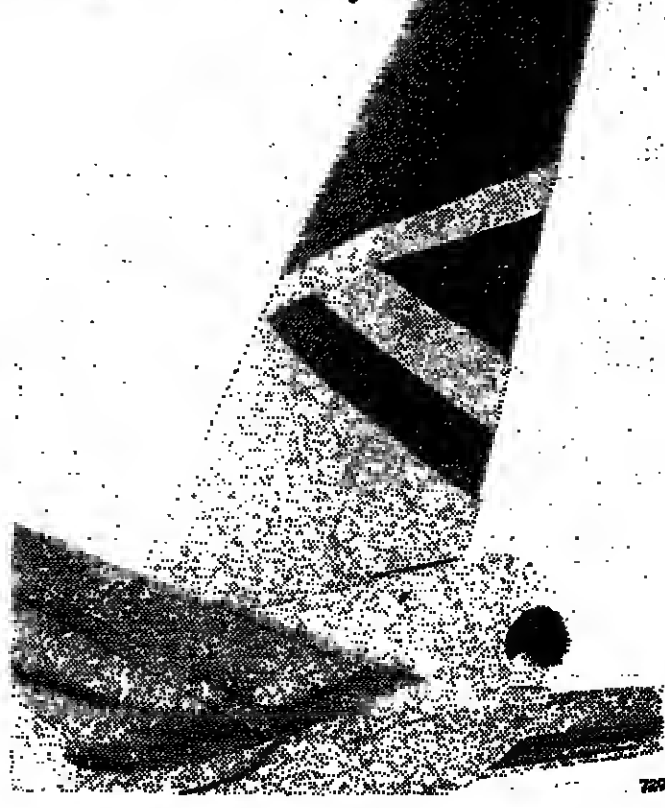
The Royal College of General Practitioners emphasized yesterday that there was no immediate cause for alarm.

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NEWS

Turn by British threatens Tyne 'metro'

After a delay of about two years and go ahead on its own. But the "metro" is seen by critics elsewhere, including no doubt some in the Treasury, as an inordinately large transport investment in one part of the country, and further delay and cost inflation might result in its abandonment and replacement by a cheaper all-bus system. The "metro" system was originally estimated to cost £50m.

It is expected to carry up to 30 million passengers a year, compared with six million a year on the present trains, at a far lower cost. Lightweight trains or trams on Continental lines with automatic signalling and ticket systems will link the main Tyneside centres.

According to Tyneside the present railway, needing a subsidy of £2.5m a year for five million passengers compared with less than £1m for more than 200 million passengers on the buses, cannot be justified and would have been closed long ago except for the forthright opposition of the local community.

The Tyneside authorities originally wanted to take over the British Rail track entirely, but last year reluctantly agreed, on representations from the railways, to a joint company to have majority control and its passenger transport executive operating the system. British Rail is now going back on that agreement.

What particularly incensed Tyneside is what is seen as collusion by British Rail and the rail unions at national level to frustrate the existing agreement and the wishes of the local community including, it is said, local bus and railway men.

Tyneside authorities have agreed to no redundancy for the 500 or so railwaymen employed on the existing service provided that they, like the busmen who will also operate it, are prepared to refrain from the different bus and railway requirements of the "metro". What they are not prepared to pay for, I was told, is existing railway management and practices.

Bill paper out soon

MP for Nottingham, West, who was prominent in anti-EEC campaigns, said yesterday that he disagreed with the statement made on behalf of the Labour Common Market Safeguards Committee on Wednesday.

"Whether one favours direct elections or not," he said, "it is surely sensible to join in the argument about how they should be conducted."

Bill to give battered wives better protection

By St. Healy
Social Services Correspondent

Battered wives are offered best protection from their husbands under a private member's Bill due for second reading in the Commons today.

Ms. Josephine Richardson, Labour MP for Barking, who is sponsoring the Bill, has been asked by the Government to sponsor it.

The Bill will tackle one of the immediate difficulties facing any battered wife: how to get the husband out of the matrimonial home and make sure he stays away.

It proposes that battered wives should be able to get injunctions against their husbands without first having to go through the divorce proceedings. That will significantly shorten the time taken to obtain an injunction and give a breathing space in the interim.

When a husband breaks an injunction, the Bill would give the police powers to arrest him at the day to bring him before a judge within 24 hours. At present it is up to the wife to call the court that her husband has broken an injunction, at only a tip-off can arrest be made. Enforcement of the injunction then takes time.

The Bill would implement some of the recommendations of the Select Committee on Violence in Marriage, which



Miss Josephine Richardson, MP, talking with wives at Tulse Hill hostel.

severely criticized the Government last September for its lack of action or interest in the difficulties of battered wives.

Ms. Richardson said yesterday: "It is a difficult problem, but one which any government should have done something about before. I believe the Bill would have both a psychological and practical effect."

"Once it is known that an injunction really means something it may well deter some men from battering their wives. The Bill would not leave action

to the woman or her solicitor, who might not always be available, but to the police who should have no excuse for not being able to find an emergency judge within 24 hours."

Support of battered wives for the Bill was confirmed on Wednesday night when Miss Richardson visited a refuge in Lambeth. The 10 women living there told her that they thought an injunction at present was "not worth the paper it is typed on".

Nine times out of 10 husbands did not obey injunctions because they were angry at

being told they could be brought back to court if they abused or approached their wives again, the women said in a statement prepared for Ms. Richardson. The husbands returned home, battered their wives again, and the wives, "if they survive", then had to go back to their solicitors for help.

The women called for reinforcement of injunction orders and more protection and cooperation from the police. Much of the evidence presented to the select committee indicated that the police felt unable to intervene.

Stricter control over locum doctors urged

By Staff Reporter

Much stricter control of the use of locum doctors who fill in for absent colleagues is recommended by an independent committee of inquiry appointed by the South East Thames Regional Health Authority after an anaesthetic accident at Oryington Hospital, Kent, in a report published yesterday.

Hospitals should be prepared to withdraw services or divert patients to better-staffed hospitals rather than employ a locum doctor who may not be able to cope, the committee says.

In August, 1974, Adam Grier, aged nine, died after an operation for appendicitis from lack of oxygen to the brain. The locum anaesthetist involved, Dr. Chander Notaney, had joined the hospital staff only that morning.

At the inquest the jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against Dr. Notaney, and asked for an independent inquiry "in the manner in which employees at the hospital were appointed. When Dr. Notaney appeared at the Central Criminal Court in March, 1975, the prosecution offered no evidence. The judge said it was beyond reason to suggest there was anything criminal about his conduct and directed that a verdict of not guilty should be recorded."

The term of reference of the committee of inquiry was to investigate the procedures by which locum doctors were employed, "with particular reference to those engaged through medical staffing agencies".

The committee suggests that

health authorities should base future guidelines for the employment of locums on the principle that "if clinical considerations allow, it may be preferable to defer treatment than proceed at risk".

Even when a decision to employ a locum had been taken it was still a matter for professional judgment whether any of the candidates was suitable. Nor could health authorities leave the selection of locums to medical employment agencies.

The committee maintains that the judgment required of a consultant in a "sharp-end" specialty—anaesthetics, obstetrics, and accident and emergency—in deciding whether to engage a locum, and selecting a particular candidate, "must be particularly fine".

It finds that although the information obtained about Dr. Notaney's background and professional record was "inadequate and misleading", proper checks would not have revealed anything untoward. It concludes that even if the full facts had been available, Dr. Notaney would probably still have been employed as a locum.

The committee rejects the idea that medical staff agencies should be licensed as nursing agencies are under the Nurses Act, 1957, and suggests that health authorities should follow a 15-point procedure when employing locums. To minimize the resultant reduced output in hospitals, lists of reliable doctors willing to act as locums should be drawn up in areas and districts.

Minister says Elizabeth Anderson Hospital to close

Conrad Seton

Mrs. Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, has decided to plan to effect the transfer as quickly as possible.

She said: "I am aware of the fine traditions of the hospital and the loyalty it has aroused as a result of its service to women and I am anxious to preserve the concept of the treatment of women by women for which it stands."

The hospital was founded by Dr. Elizabeth Garrett Anderson in 1872 and is one of only three in Britain where women can be sure that they are treated by women doctors. It has just over a hundred beds in an area with no shortage of beds. It occupies buildings in need of renovation.

"In spite of Mrs. Castle's decision to preserve the hospital's facilities, the Camden Working Women's Charter Groups, one of the organizations that have been fighting to prevent the closure, plans a 24-hour protest vigil outside the Minister's home tomorrow."

Camden and Islington Area Health Authority to work out a plan to effect the transfer as quickly as possible.

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'No sacrifices' for overspent health authority

From Arthur Osman

A leading union official, Mr. William Griffiths, of the National Union of Public Employees, told Islington Area Health Authority last night that staff should not become "sacrificial lambs" to help the authority in its financial difficulties.

Mr. Griffiths, a member of the authority, said that would mean their having to pay for errors of judgment by others.

The authority expects to be overspent by £320,000 at the end of its financial year next month, but one member, Mr. John Swan, said: "Whether it is £320,000 or £150,000 does not matter. Our total expenditure is £8m, and in all the circumstances I think £320,000 on £8m is chickenfeed."

Mr. Griffiths, who is chairman of the authority's staff panel, continued: "There is a good deal of hysteria about this overspending. In 28 years of the health service overspending has never worried me for one minute."

Teachers reject move on service conditions

The National Union of Teachers yesterday followed the action of the National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers in rejecting proposals by the Council of Local Education Authorities.

At a meeting in London, the teachers refused to accept a management paper on teachers' duties as a basis for discussion. However, both sides agreed to meet again on March 24.

Mr. Frederick Jarvis, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers and spokesman for the unions, said later: "The ideas embodied in the local authorities' paper were quite unacceptable to all the teachers' organizations, and if acted upon would have meant a deterioration in teachers' conditions of service."

The council paper issued yesterday was in response to moves by the teachers to improve their conditions of service. It also suggested that before any detailed negotiations take place on the teachers' proposals there should be agreement on the main aspects of a teacher's job.

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Unions put off wage claim

The Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions decided in York yesterday to defer the next pay claim until the Government announces its plans for wage controls after expiry of the 26 limit in August.

66 more foreign doctors fail test

Results of the eighth proficiency test for foreign doctors held in Edinburgh last month were published yesterday. The General Medical Council announced that of the 105 doctors who took the test, 39 passed and 66 failed.

Road inquiry enters its 101st day

From Our Correspondent
Llandudno

The public inquiry at Llandudno into a £75m plan for a new, 18-mile road in North Wales entered its 101st day yesterday, beating the 100-day record for a road inquiry set up when the M42 was being considered in the Midlands.

When the inquiry, which began last May, ends today it will have heard more than 150 witnesses, and the inspector, Mr. R. Rolph, will have seen 532 documents.

Last night the Welsh Office said the inquiry would cost about £500,000.

The inquiry is into a Welsh Office scheme to build a new carriageway between Llandudno and Aber, following mainly the coast. It would pass near the seafront at Colwyn Bay, involving the demolition of many houses, and close to the castle at Conway, two features that have caused the main contention.

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unemployment

NEWS

plan to end council grip over education

A local authority contributes, although no authority is responsible for the way in which it is spent. Conservative regard this system as inefficient, irresponsible and inflationary. They suggest a national system of finance, similar to the University Grants Committee, which distributes money to each university from a fixed sum. Conservatives also believe that detailed local authority control over smaller masters, such as secretarial help, has made the system of principals and colleges unworkable. They propose that the Councils should be given the freedom to decide their own budgets, with national rather than local constraints. They are also concerned about "academic drift" under which polytechnics and colleges produce degree courses in preparation for the professions, rather than the local community. They see as examples of drift the over-provision of science and technology courses, mentioned in *The Times* last year, and proposals to offer large numbers of liberal arts degrees in new colleges of higher education. The Conservatives criticise the 10 regional advisory councils responsible for approving these courses as very inefficient, non-descript, and as having a stifling influence on higher education. At present, an advanced course is rejected by which every



Mr. Tom Stephenson: Dream became reality

The king of rambles is honoured

By Philip Howard

Future generations will not find all the changes that we have made to the face of Britain in the past fifty years improvements. Some they will find quite inexplicable and insane. But at least they will be proud of the old network of tracks and footpaths that have been retraced over the fells and dales, and the wilder, and most beautiful parts of the countryside.

The king of the rambles, longest fell-walker of the land, and pioneer of the lonely delights of the long-distance hiker, Mr. Tom Stephenson, celebrated his eighty-third birthday yesterday. The Ramblers' Association, of which he was secretary for 25 years and for which he has published an illustrated booklet to honour the man who has done more than any other to open up the moorlands to walkers.

More than forty years ago Mr. Stephenson made the absurd suggestion of a long green trail stretching half way across England from Epsom in Derbyshire across the Yorkshire Pennines to the Cheviots on the Scottish border. In 1955 his dream became reality, when the Pennine Way was opened.

Mr. Stephenson was born in 1893 at Chorley, Lancashire, son of an engraver in a calico printing works who eventually had a family of nine. At the age of 13 the young Tom climbed Puddle Hill on the border of Lancashire and Yorkshire at this time of year and saw the snow-covered Pennines laid out before him under a blue sky.

He says: "My eyes were opened. I had not realised that England was so big. I made up my mind then and there that I was going to get to know the names and contours of those hills."

And so he did. In his long and varied career, a geologist, journalist, Labour Party official, a campaigner for rambler's rights and for opening up the countryside. The life and work of Tom Stephenson (Ramblers' Association, 60p, post free).

Data team chairman
Sir Kenneth Younger, chairman of the committee that produced the 1972 report on intrusion into privacy, is to head the Data Protection Committee.

Prince tests ship
The Prince of Wales took his first command, HMS Bronington (360 tons), a minesweeper, out on Rosyth dockyard, for a 24-hour exercise yesterday.

Community health councils—5: Fulfilling the role of 'patient's friend' Success depends on winning public's faith

By Neville Hodgkinson

Although not entitled to investigate individual complaints, community health councils can act as a "patient's friend" to complainants, giving advice and support. Their effectiveness in that function, more than in any other, depends on the public knowing when, who and where their council is. Some councils, however, have still not had permanent premises approved by the regional authority.

Roehampton CHC, for example, is still in a single room, measuring 10ft by 8ft 6in for its secretary and her assistant. Not surprisingly, it remarks in its annual report that "the community we serve does not yet know of our existence or functions". The incident councils, including Wandsworth, have shop premises at the heart of their district.

Darlington CHC says in its annual report that its prime concern has been lack of information and consultation. Mr. Reginald Watson, the secretary, says the council is quite sober and responsible, and has a wide range of membership, and yet it feels strongly that the district management team is not giving

it a chance to make meaningful comments, even on important matters.

Belton CHC reports that with new hospital and administrative staff setting down in new posts after the reorganization, enthusiastic CHC members "appeared as yet another army of Big Brothers breathing down super-sensitive necks, as they made their initial tours of hospitals and health service establishments which they are statutorily entitled to visit".

East Berkshire CHC comments in its annual report that the doctors and staff of NHS staff about the CHC role have been alarmed. But that council has experienced what is possibly a more serious alienation from a large section of the public that it is supposed to be representing.

Faced with a decision from the area authority that one of three maternity units in East Berkshire had to be closed, the council accepted the area's proposal that it should be the one at Cliveden Hospital, Taplow, near Maidenhead. The acceptance prompted demonstrations, a stormy meeting attended by about 150 people, and a petition with 18,000 signatures, all directed against the CHC rather than the area authority.

Because of unpleasantness she said she had suffered by another woman in the ward, who tried to complain after allegedly being given an injection meant for the patient in the next bed, the correspondent asked the association not to pass on her name.

The CHC secretary, Mr. John Dufforne, a former hospital superintendent, wrote back to say that during his years as such he would never entertain an anonymous complaint. He had taken the matter up with the area administrator, however, who "confirmed" that the question of cost was not allowed to interfere with special diets.

A long correspondence followed, police and postmarking on both sides. The Patients Association tried to persuade the CHC to send a working group into the hospital to ask the ward sisters in a general way if there were difficulties over diets.

Mr. Dufforne insisted that he had been satisfied by the administrator that the diet arrangements were satisfactory, and that he could not investigate an anonymous complaint about something that might have gone wrong two years previously. Next: Benefits of scrutiny.

Courses for teenagers on smashing capitalism

By Our Education Correspondent

The Workers' Revolutionary Party is running courses for teenagers on smashing capitalism at the Red House, its education centre at Farwich, near Ashbourne, Derbyshire.

A group of 50 between the ages of 14 and 20 went on a weekend course at the centre two weeks ago. The expenses of some were paid by local authorities, which believed they were going on a country outing for deprived children.

An account of their weekend appears in today's edition of *The Times Educational Supplement*. Some of the teenagers reported that they had "a terrible time", with lectures all day. For evening entertainment they were shown a film of the Jarrold march, and guards were posted to prevent any "hacking about" in the grounds.

About 15 children from Hackney and Islington, in London, said the weekend had been arranged as a country outing by a Young Socialists youth club at a day night. Some had received £10 and £5 from Hackney social services department and from the district welfare education officer of the Inner London Education Authority.

The paper reports that the dominant message the children brought back was the need to smash capitalism, although some had only the haziest idea of what capitalism means.

Mr. Roy Battersby, warden of the Red House, told the *TES* that there had been no recent weekends for children. They had a youth movement for those aged 17 and over.

Mr. Stephen Scott, chairman of Hackney social services committee, has issued instructions that similar approaches for funds should be carefully investigated.

Correction

Mr. Ilyd Harrington, deputy leader of the Greater London Council, has not lost his seat on that body as stated in the headline to a report on page 4 of later editions yesterday. He lost his seat on Westminster City Council that he has lost.

£10m to improve theatres in Edinburgh plan

A £10m plan to improve three Edinburgh theatres, giving scope for productions of all types, was announced by the Scottish Arts Council yesterday. The plan in effect replaces the Edinburgh City Opera House project, which would have cost at least £20m and was abandoned last October by Edinburgh City District Council.

The Arts Council says both the Lyceum Theatre and the Theatre Royal, which should be improved. A third theatre, either the Playhouse or the Empire, should be acquired and modernized to present all large-scale opera and ballet productions.

Widow cleared of murder

Doris Celia Croft, aged 50, a widow, who was said to have hit a partially blind man with a wheelbarrow on the road, was cleared of murder after a trial at Maidstone Crown Court, Kent, yesterday.

Ms. Croft, of Madeira Avenue, Wooding, Sussex, was found guilty of manslaughter due to diminished responsibility. She was placed on probation for three years and ordered to undergo medical treatment.

Prince tests ship
The Prince of Wales took his first command, HMS Bronington (360 tons), a minesweeper, out on Rosyth dockyard, for a 24-hour exercise yesterday.

DATA team chairman
Sir Kenneth Younger, chairman of the committee that produced the 1972 report on intrusion into privacy, is to head the Data Protection Committee.

That simple change in law solve obscenity problem

more on a jury rather than on a judge, and that in those circumstances I think it is an illusion to think there is a simple change in the law that would solve this problem.

MR. STONEHOUSE (Walsall, North, Lab)—Has his attention been drawn to cases where acquittals have been obtained on the basis of a unanimous jury verdict and yet the Director of Public Prosecutions re-institutes charges not only a second time but a third time, as in the Lindsay case for instance?

Will he do something about this? Will he be taking the law into his own hands by bringing the law into disrepute?

MR. JENKINS—I am not responsible for the DPP and it would not be right to make any accusations on this. I am not sure the DPP has acted exactly in the way described by Mr. Stonehouse, but he will be taking note of what he has said.

MR. MICHAEL McNAUL-WILSON (Newbury, C)—Even Mr. Jenkins is not prepared to amend the definition of obscenity in this Act, is there not a case for banning material which encourages the sexual act between human beings and children and animals in terms of sado-masochism?

MR. JENKINS—I am certain there are matters which are objectionable. I do not think it is easy to draw this frontier on the basis of categories and I suppose we will be left with great difficulties if that was attempted.

MR. ALISON, an Opposition spokesman on home affairs (Barnsley, Lab)—We welcome the helpful and constructive reaction Mr. Jenkins has given to the ques-

tions asked and to the misgivings expressed in the country in the context of the willingness to look seriously at the alleged shortfall in this Act.

Would he give sympathetic consideration to receiving an all-party delegation to see him personally to elaborate some of the difficulties we find in the way the Act is working?

MR. JENKINS—If such a delegation wants to see me on this subject I would listen to what they have to say. I thought Mr. Alison, in association with others, was doing some work on this matter and perhaps we can talk when he has the results.

MR. GARDNER (South Fyde, C)—However formidable the difficulties are in drafting a satisfactory legal definition of obscenity, these difficulties do not make the same extent with regard to public advertisements and indecent displays.

Would he not show a little more concern for the anxieties of a growing number of people who find it wholly objectionable to have this kind of law thrust upon their attention in our cities and towns?

Would he think again about introducing legislation on the lines of the indecent displays Bill which the Conservative Government tried to bring before the House?

MR. JENKINS—I do not regard the same considerations as applying to the obscenity of matters of this sort, as I do to other questions of censorship and people rest privately. The Conservative Bill, which had good intentions, did not stand up as a piece of legislation.

hats in seven and a half years

MR. WILSON—When I decided in 1966 to stop the system of poli-

tical honours, I provided that a similar number of honours should be recommended in case of service to local government irrespective of party.

Although the Conservatives had been in office for 13 years before 1964, when there were a vast number of political honours, after that particular decision all were decided on their merits and impartially and about a third of the honours in respect of local government went to Conservatives or Liberals.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons
Tuesday, 11.00: Second Offences (Amendment) Bill, Domestic Violence Bill, and Private Members' Bill, second reading.

Why the fight for freedom and high standards in British Medicine must continue. And why you should join it now.

The government is proposing to remove pay beds and separate independent practice from National Health Service hospitals. It further proposes to introduce a system of licensing to limit the provision of independent facilities outside the NHS.

The main bodies representing the medical profession have already warned the Government that these proposals are almost certain to harm ALL patients—whether of the NHS or the independent sector.

Because this warning has been ignored, the organisations listed below feel compelled, in the public interest, to restate the main points of their case.

The fact is that the proposals will serve no useful purpose whatsoever. They will:

- 1. Fail to shorten NHS waiting lists**
Pay beds are only 1% of the total in the NHS. Even Mrs Castle's Department has admitted 'it is not possible to confirm that waiting time for a consultation will be reduced and the waiting time for admission will shorten when pay beds are phased out'.
- 2. Cost the British taxpayer substantial sums of money**
Private patients in NHS hospitals pay the full cost of their accommodation—in addition, of course, to their ordinary tax contributions. The loss of this income, which amounts to many millions of pounds each year, cannot make sense for a service which is already desperately short of money—or for the patients it is increasingly hard-pressed to serve.
- 3. Lead to further shortages of medical staff in the NHS**
The NHS is already short of consultants. Removing their right to engage in a limited amount of independent practice in the same hospitals as those in which they serve the NHS can only make recruitment more difficult.
- 4. Lower medical standards generally**
The present 'mixed' system was agreed at the foundation of the NHS, so that the NHS should benefit from all the skills and experience of doctors, some of whom might otherwise have worked entirely in the independent sector. NHS patients have undoubtedly benefited—and will, just as certainly, now suffer if the two sectors are rigidly separated.
Even where consultants continue to mix independent and public medical practice, the necessity of commuting between hospitals to do so must, inevitably, reduce their availability in emergencies. Again, it is the patients who will suffer.
Despite the Government's protests to the contrary, their proposals could lead to a State monopoly in medicine. A doctor's primary loyalty, which is to his patient, could be threatened by the demands of the State.
Is that what you want?
- 5. Destroy a precious liberty**
Private medicine is not the preserve of the rich. It is there for everyone, and it can be afforded by everyone—health insurance costs less than smoking. You can choose either the NHS or private treatment; you are not committed always to follow one course or the other. At present you have freedom of choice within the NHS.
The present Government's intention is to diminish that freedom to a very grave extent. Do you want this to happen?

In the belief that the Government's proposals will have no effect other than to lower the standards of British health care and to hurt patients, the representatives of the bodies listed below have committed themselves to support the Campaign for Independence in Medicine.

The Campaign will seek, by every constitutional means, to persuade the Government to abandon plans as dubious in principle as they are likely to be harmful in practice. If you support these aims, we urge you to make your views known—to your MP, community health council, trade union or professional organisation.

Campaign for Independence in Medicine

Representing: The British Medical Association, the Hospital Consultants and Specialists Association, the British Dental Association and the Independent Hospital Group.

1 Maltravers Street, London WC2R 3AX.

WEST EUROPE

New Italian Cabinet of 'old faces' sworn in

From Patricia Clough
Rome, Feb 12

Signor Moro's fragile new Christian Democrat minority Government was sworn in today amid open expressions of disquiet by the rank and file of the party.

He unexpectedly announced the Cabinet list last night without waiting for the final consultations with the party's parliamentary leaders arranged for this morning.

It was understood here that he was urged to do so by President Leone, who was anxious to avoid any further delay in ending the five-week-old crisis.

The new Cabinet was almost identical to the last except for a few adjustments to replace the four outgoing Republican ministers and Signor Luigi Gui, the Interior Minister, named in the Lockheed corruption scandal.

It was this fact which increased backbench Christian Democrats, who have been demanding new faces in the Government.

The parliamentary leaders had proposed that all former prime ministers—all those with more than 10 years in office—be dropped from the Cabinet. Signor Michele Zolli, one of the deputies, expressed "deep bitterness" that their names had been ignored and that the "internal oligarchies" were being perpetuated.

After a long and heated debate the party leaders in the Chamber of Deputies agreed to support the Government but to "draw the personal consequences" later. They were expected to resign their posts and probably renew their battle during next month's party congress.

The new Government, Signor Moro's fifth and the 38th since the fall of the Mussolini dictatorship, is widely expected to be one of the shortest-lived. Its main task is to introduce emergency measures to deal with the current economic and monetary crisis and to halt rising unemployment.

But it has little time at its disposal.

Signor Moro's new administration was presented with its first difficulty even before it was sworn in at midday. Signor Forlani, who continues in his post as Defence Minister, refused to take on the additional appointment of acting Interior Minister.

The appointment, he said, was made without his consent. Signor Moro later solved the problem by having himself sworn in as acting Interior Minister. It was understood that the post was being kept for Signor Gui who had asked to be excluded while he fought charges of accepting bribes from the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation.

Mediterranean states agree to prevent pollution

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Feb 12

Representatives of 16 countries agreed in Barcelona today to work together to cut pollution in the Mediterranean. The agreement was reached by all the countries bordering the Mediterranean except for Algeria and Albania.

The agreement binds the governments to take all appropriate measures to cut down and prevent pollution and the dumping of crude oil, radioactive waste, mercury and certain other substances. The dumping of certain other dangerous products such as lead, copper, arsenic and fluorides can be authorized but only under controlled conditions.

The Barcelona conference was called by the United Nations Environment Programme. It took several days to reach agreement.

There was also some difficulty about voting rights for European regional organizations.

Duchess treated in Paris hospital

Paris, Feb 12.—The Duchess of Windsor, who is 79, is being treated in the American Hospital at Neuilly for a recurrent spell of weakness, hospital sources said today.

She was admitted to the hospital on Friday and is expected to be allowed home in four or five days, the sources said.—UPL

Europe MPs vote for higher farm prices

From David Cross
Strasbourg, Feb 12

Members of the European Parliament today came out strongly in favour of granting the European Community's nine million farmers a 9.5 per cent increase in agricultural prices over the coming crop year.

The final vote at Strasbourg today revealed that two-thirds of the members supported more generous terms than those suggested by the European Commission when it proposed increases averaging 7.5 per cent at the end of last year. Only a minority of Socialists in the chamber, including British Labour MPs, were in favour of the original proposal.

Although the Parliament's vote is not binding on member governments, who have committed themselves to taking a final decision by the end of the month, the British Government's campaign to keep farm price increases to a minimum in the interests of the consumer is now likely to be further



President Giscard d'Estaing (right) greets Herr Helmut Schmidt on his arrival at Nice airport for two days of consultations.

Giscard belief that Europe lacks political capacity of decision

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Feb 12

President Giscard d'Estaing believes in the value of symbols. He decided that the two-day Franco-German "consultations"—the new term preferred by the French for these twice yearly summits—should take place in the idyllic setting of the Mas d'Arignay, a luxury hotel set among the hills near St Paul de Vence.

On his arrival at Nice airport, he said the idea was to bring home the fact that co-operation between the two countries not only concerned their Governments but also their peoples. The next meeting, in July, will be held in Hamburg.

The latest wind of speculation which has driven the franc downwards and the mark upwards within a sorely tried European "soak" is not officially on the agenda of these consultations. It is not according to French sources, a specifically Franco-German issue; but it is inescapable that it should not be raised within the framework of the survey by the West German Chancellor and the French President of economic prospects for the present year.

President Giscard d'Estaing said in an interview with *Nice-Matin*: "Never have Franco-German relations been as close today. In the construction of Europe they are a factor of stability and creativity. With-

out Franco-German understanding there is no Europe. It remains indispensable to every progress it makes. It is rather a lack of understanding between the two countries which could justify fears among other partners. They have nothing exclusive and do not prevent one or the other from having confident and friendly relations with our other European partners."

The vastly different performances of their economies in last year's economic crisis might appear at first sight an obstacle to this close Franco-German cooperation; but the President and the Chancellor have the same way of looking at problems and make the same analysis of the situation.

M Giscard d'Estaing's "great preoccupation", he said on arrival at the Mas d'Arignay today, was the absence in the Community of "political capacity" of decision.

It is obvious; Europe is absent. It takes no part in events, and no one seems to think it can. The question is whether Europe wants and is able to give itself this power of decision."

If it had weathered the difficulties arising from enlargement and the economic crisis, it was largely due to the creation at the end of 1974 of the European Council. Now the President wants to strengthen the "political capacity" of the Community by creating a sort

of permanent delegation or "directorate", based on the Franco-German "backbone", together with Britain.

This is one of the questions he will discuss with the Chancellor in what he described as "the first exchange of views on the future of the Community before the European Council meeting on April 1 and 2."

M Giscard d'Estaing is more than ever persuaded that the necessary impulse and incentive to progress in European affairs can only be given by a small group of countries which have the weight and experience in foreign policy to do so; but he is not thinking of setting up another European body—rather a small pragmatic "governing group" of heads of government, within the framework of the European Council.

The feeling in Paris is that the Chancellor agrees with the need for something on the same lines.

Britain is considered by the President to be the third natural candidate for the group. There has never been any doubt in Paris that it will play its part in the future of Europe, and all the talk in the press and the lobbies about writing Britain off as the "sick man of Europe" does not reflect his standpoint.

In spite of some misgivings in Gaullist ranks, the majority stands behind the President's European policy.

Lip workers face job cuts in new rescue operation

From Richard Wigg
Paris, Feb 12

Shop stewards at Lip, the French watch-making concern, today demanded publicly that the workers should be informed what is happening as fresh troubles faced the firm.

These include the threatened dismissal of 150 out of the 900 workers employed at present. The Socialist-led shop stewards have warned the management that the workers will refuse any pruning of labour, in spite of Lip's falling sales last year and growing stocks of watches and parts.

At the weekend, the French Government decided to pump more money into Lip on top of the 57m francs (£6.3m) the Besançon firm received jointly

from the state and French big business during the rescue operation in 1974.

The latest troubles are essentially due to the economic downturn which frustrated the ambitious plans of M Claude Neuschwander, the director-general of the factory, appointed in 1974 to win new markets.

A large advertisement appeared in the *Le Figaro* yesterday announcing that Lip was seeking a new director-general, although M Neuschwander still officially occupies the post.

The new director-general, a statement by Lip's backers said at the weekend, would be entrusted with carrying through the second Lip rescue operation.

Madrid strike over accused journalist

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Feb 12

The Madrid daily newspaper *Nuevo Diario* did not appear today because of a strike by journalists in sympathy with a colleague who has been sent for trial before a military tribunal for refusing to disclose his sources.

Journalists on other newspapers held meetings during the day to discuss taking action. A general meeting of the Madrid Press Association was expected to be held to take a vote on whether to halt the production of other newspapers.

Senior Rodrigo Vasquez Prada, a reporter on the staff

of *Nuevo Diario* and a director of the Madrid Press Association, was indicted by political court on a charge of refusing to give evidence.

While journalists discussed what action to take, an estimated 70,000 building workers in Madrid came out on strike yesterday demanding that Lip should be free and that those dismissed from work for political reasons should be reinstated. The strikers also wanted another £40 a month and other benefits.

A spokesman for the industry's strike organizing committee said the police had arrested 62 people this week, most of

Daughter, 22, of industrialist is kidnapped

Rome, Feb 12.—Three masked men kidnapped the 22-year-old daughter of a cement company executive in the garage of the family villa as she was preparing to leave home today, police said.

The men fled by car before police set up roadblocks in the area. The family of the girl, Marina D'Alessio, refused to talk to reporters. Friends said the family had feared a kidnapping for some time and had kept Marina's younger sister home from school as a precaution.

More than 50 kidnappings were reported last year and this is the sixth this year.—UPL

them at a demonstration on Tuesday night. Delegates from the Workers' Commissions, the illegal and powerful underground trade union movement, held a sit-in in the offices of the industry's state-run trade union.

The Government's commission to study constitutional reform met for the first time yesterday and agreed that the country needed reforms quickly. The commission, which has 16 members and is headed by Señor Carlos Arias Navarro, the Prime Minister, is made up of members of the Cabinet and the Council of the National Movement.

Nationalists put Scotland's terms to EEC

From Our Own Correspondent
Strasbourg, Feb 12

An independent Scotland would expect the option of its own seat "at the top table" within the EEC, the Scottish National Party member of the European Parliament, said today.

But before the present Nine became 10 there would have to be some very hard bargaining. In particular, there would have to be a radical reform of the Community's fishing policy and proper safeguards over the control and extraction of oil from the Scottish sector of the North Sea, she suggested.

Mrs Ewing, who was addressing a press conference, said her party had conveyed these views in a letter to M Georges Senechal, the French president of the European Parliament.

OVERSEAS

Returned mercenaries not to face criminal charges over execution of comrades in Angola

By a Staff Reporter

No criminal charges are to be brought against any of the British mercenaries returning from Angola in connection with the execution of 14 of their comrades.

Scotland Yard said last night that five men who had been questioned since their return to London on Tuesday had been allowed home. But any other mercenaries returning to Britain would still be questioned about the Angola incidents.

Detective Chief Superintendent Henry Mooney, who has been heading the inquiries, said: "After very careful consideration of all the circumstances and after consultation with the Attorney General, the Director of Public Prosecutions has decided not to institute any proceedings pursuant to the jurisdiction established by Section Nine of the Offences Against the Person Act, 1860, against any person who has been interviewed by the police in relation to the alleged killing of British personnel in Angola."

As the detectives wound up their questioning of the last of the 45 men who flew into Heathrow on Tuesday, there were reports that another batch of mercenaries may leave Britain soon.

Mr Leslie Aspin, who is in Holland, has said he will form a new company called BAB Ltd to perform the same function as Security Advisory Services (SAS), the Camberley recruiting firm of which he was a partner.

Yesterday Mr John Banks, who worked for the company but split up from Mr Aspin, said he had been told by his volunteers that Mr Aspin was planning to send more men out soon. Mr Banks said he also planned to recruit again but would not send men from Britain. He refused to say what country he would use.

On the political front, Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, last night expressed surprise at a letter from Mr Reginald Maudling, the Conservative spokesman on foreign

affairs, which urged the Government to get in touch with the United Nations Security Council, Nato, the EEC and African countries over Angola.

In his reply Mr Callaghan said he had assumed "that the silence of the official Opposition throughout the long weeks of the Angolan war not only indicated that the Opposition was aware of the Government's policy but was content with it."

His reply continued: "Your party's foreign affairs committee, in urging you to write to me in these terms, seems to be either uninformed or very slow off the mark."

"I hope you will ask them to bear in mind, in addition to the important East-West aspects of this matter, that African countries continue to make it clear that they regard the problem of Angola as one which is primarily for them, and that any initiative which does not take account of their wishes in respect of their continent is likely to be counter-productive."

As to the political front, Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, last night expressed surprise at a letter from Mr Reginald Maudling, the Conservative spokesman on foreign

republic and the club claims to be a "social and recreational organization" which offers soirées of cool beer and camaraderie for its members every Friday night.

However, a senior official of the club told me today that it could muster several hundred battle-hardened men within 24 hours to fight in Angola should the need arise. "Despite the latest set-backs for the pro-Western forces, I am confident we could still play a role in Angola. If we had been called in a year ago, the situation would have been different now. But it is still not too late."

Apparently Colonel Hoare, no longer respectable business broker in Durban, with staunch anti-communist views, has been involved in negotiations with his former patron, President Mobutu of Zaïre, for the past 18 months. President Mobutu has been one of the principal backers of the Angolan National Liberation Front (FNLA) and Union for the Total Independence

of Angola (Unita) movements. However, so far, no agreement has been reached—despite a figure of \$10m (about £5m) being mentioned as payment for military services according to sources close to the "Wild Geese Club". Colonel Hoare is fastidious about the sort of war he takes part in.

Not only must his men be well and regularly paid, but they must also receive the right sort of equipment, particularly in a conflict like the Angolan one where the opposition has Soviet-made T54 tanks and MIG 21 jets at its disposal.

Zaïre's announcement last week that it would not allow its territory to be used by foreign mercenaries would seem to put an end to any hopes the "Wild Geese" had of intervening from that side. But there remains the vast, underpopulated southern part of the country where

chable leaders say they will continue to fight a guerrilla war.

Will South Africa fight? page 14

Col Hoare awaits the golden egg

From Nicholas Ashford
Johannesburg, Feb 12

The geese have not yet flown to Angola. They remain cooped up in Johannesburg waiting for a golden egg to be laid with which to finance their journey.

The geese are members of the "Wild Geese Club", an organization formed by the former Congo mercenary leader Colonel "Mad Mike" Hoare for former members of his No 5 commando unit and other soldiers of fortune of similar experience. The golden egg is a "contract" covering pay and equipment without which Colonel Hoare will not commit his men to fight against the left-wing Government for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) and its Russian and Cuban allies.

As is to be expected, "Wild Geese Club" members are fairly secretive about their plans. The South African Government frowns on the recruitment of mercenaries in the

republic and the club claims to be a "social and recreational organization" which offers soirées of cool beer and camaraderie for its members every Friday night.

However, a senior official of the club told me today that it could muster several hundred battle-hardened men within 24 hours to fight in Angola should the need arise. "Despite the latest set-backs for the pro-Western forces, I am confident we could still play a role in Angola. If we had been called in a year ago, the situation would have been different now. But it is still not too late."

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Will South Africa fight? page 14

Payouts on a world scale

More than 20 large American companies have in recent years spent a total of more than \$300m (about £150m) abroad in questionable payments to secure business contracts. The table shows some of the alleged payments

Company	Amounts \$	Country	Alleged Recipients
Lockheed ¹	1m to 1.2m	Holland	High Dutch government official "for military aircraft sales"
Lockheed	100,000	Holland	Same official for TriStar sales
Lockheed	over 7m	Japan	Mr Yoshio Kodama (Independent consultant)
Lockheed	over 2m	Japan	Government officials
Lockheed	at least 2m	Italy	Political parties, individual politicians and officials
Lockheed	8,000	W Germany	Two unidentified political parties
Lockheed ²	106m	Saudi Arabia	In commissions, mostly to one businessman
Exxon Corp	59m	Italy	Politicians, officials and political parties
Gulf Oil Corp	4m	S Korea	Democratic Republic Party
Gulf	480,000	Bolivia	Government officials
Gulf	50,000	—	A Beirut group to promote Arab propaganda in US
ITT	39,000	Belgium	Government official
Mobil Oil	2.1m	Italy	Political parties
McDonnell Douglas	Various	Turkey	Payments include agent's fee of \$188,000
Northrop Corp ³	450,000	Saudi Arabia ⁴	Two generals
Northrop	4,400	Iran	An official
Northrop	15,000	Indonesia	An official
Northrop	1.8m	Switzerland	—
Northrop	2.3m	Brazil	Air Force officers
Northrop	61,000	France	General Paul Stehlin
United Brands Co	75,000	Italy	Officials
United Brands	1.25m	Honduras	Officials

¹ Total Lockheed payments secretly made abroad to government officials or politicians put at \$24.6m.
² Other Lockheed payments, full amount not known, in South Africa, Spain, Nigeria, Iran, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Mexico, Colombia, Sweden, Hongkong and Philippines.
³ Northrop's total payments believed to be around \$30m.
⁴ Other payments by Northrop running into millions of dollars were reportedly made to Saudi officials, a businessman, a businessman, in Germany and the Middle East. Payments listed to officials, or former officials, in Germany and the Middle East.

Stern Kissinger warning on company bribes

From Frank Vogl
Washington, Feb 12

Dr Kissinger, the American Secretary of State, said today that every effort must be made in the future to ensure that United States international companies do not bribe foreign officials to secure business.

The recent disclosures could have very serious consequences, he said, for the stability and domestic situation of countries where officials are said to have accepted secret payments from American firms.

The Secretary of State told a press conference that the Administration "strongly condemns" the use of such practices and it is disturbed about the actions that some companies are alleged to have taken. Today, the State Department received a request from Mr Sumitiko Ito, the new Japanese ambassador in Washington, to provide all available information on the payments by the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation to consultants and officials in Japan.

The State Department and the ambassador are likely to be kept busy. Informal sources in the Senate multinational subcommittee, as a large number of documents on Lockheed dealings in Japan in addition to the considerable volume that it released last week.

These additional documents, which are believed to contain some receipts from agents and cash transfer papers, might be released to the public tomorrow.

The financial future of Lockheed and indirectly that of Rolls-Royce, which is an important supplier of engines to Lockheed, could be seriously affected by the latest disclosures.

The company fears the revelations could lose it business abroad. The disclosures are now being made on Capitol Hill to pressure the Treasury to determine whether Lockheed, by its secret payments, has violated the terms of its \$198m (about £97m) of Government loan guarantees.

The Lockheed disclosures have not indicated that any improper dealings took place with regard to British purchases and agreements with the company. The series of hearings of the multinational subcommittee in the Senate in the last year have at times raised questions of whether British-based international companies are as guilty as American multinationals of paying bribes.

Mr Ford to campaign again in vital state

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, Feb 12

President Ford will return New Hampshire at the end next week and devote time to some serious campaigning. There is now a good possibility that Mr Ronald Reagan, former Governor of California, will defeat the president in primary there on February 23 and Mr Ford's only chance of escaping that humiliation is to take to the campaign trail before a miracle.

New Hampshire is not typical of the United States; it is a small state with a small number of delegates to the party convention and it is no tangible reason why it should drive Mr Ford from the field.

In the 1968 Democratic primary in New Hampshire, however, President Johnson won, but only just (49.6 per cent to Senator Eugene McCarthy's 41.9 per cent), withdrew from the race afterwards. In 1972, Sen. Edward Brooke won, but his handsome victory (46.4 per cent to Senator George McGovern's 37.1 per cent) campaign never recovered the setback.

The two setbacks were bold, but sufficient. These experiences are remembered well on both sides of political fence that candid now disclaim any hope of winning.

They all profess to be that they will be content with a good second or third place in the poll, albeit such claimers convince no one.

If Mr Reagan wins in Hampshire, he could lose Massachusetts on March 2 when he wins in Florida on March 23. Doing terrible damage to Ford's hopes for the nomination.

There are another primary after that, most in states where the president stands a better chance than in New Hampshire or Florida.

observed that every President elected since the New Deal first won the New Hampshire primary.

Mr Reagan has the considerable advantage in New Hampshire of the support of the Governor, Mr Mel Thompson.

Will South Africa fight? page 14

Yugoslav anger over Levi article on lawyer's plight

From Dossa Trevisan
Belgrade, Feb 12

An article by Bernard Levin in *The Times* on the plight of the Yugoslav lawyer Srđja Popovic, who had defended many political dissidents and is himself to be prosecuted for a plea he made in court on behalf of a defendant, has provoked an indignant comment in the Belgrade newspaper *Politika*.

It describes Mr Levin's article as profoundly insulting to every Yugoslav. Always sensitive to outside criticism, the Yugoslavs were particularly angered by Mr Levin's remarks about President Tito—but even more, it seems, by the parallel he drew between the President and General Franco. This evidently added insult to injury and provoked the paper's attack on not only Mr Levin, but on *The Times*, which published the article, and the BBC, which broadcast it in its Serbo-Croatian language programme.

Politika described the article as a typically cold war anti-Yugoslav pamphlet whose paragon with General Franco was "extremely less" and profoundly insulting because no such parallel had drawn between the two. Mr Levin, he said, was "the man who led in the war of active and heroic allied forces", with the late S. dictator.

Mr Srđja Popovic has meantime returned to Yugoslavia from a week in Western Europe and formed the court that the trial can be set. The trial was due to be held in December, but because of Popovic's absence it was postponed.

The Yugoslav lawyer's situation so far has taken official stand in defence of its members. But many have expressed national and pledged full support for Mr Popovic in the first case where a Politika described the article as a typically cold war anti-

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Iceland ship blamed for risk to life

By Our Diplomatic Staff

The Ministry of Defence has accused the Icelandic coast-guard vessel *Baldur* of endangering the lives of the crew on board the trawler *Ross Rodney* while cutting a trawling wire on Wednesday.

In a statement issued early yesterday, the Ministry said that the captain of the *Baldur* had completely misjudged his ship's handling. "As a result, the cutter gear ripped over the side of the trawler, passing over the deck and endangering the lives of the trawler crew."

Against this unpropitious background, Dr Lúna, the Secretary General of Nato, returned to Brussels after his talks with Mr Wilson and Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, about Britain's dispute with Iceland, which is also a member of the alliance. Dr Lúna is expected to be in touch shortly with the Icelandic Government.

The next move will depend on Iceland's reactions to Dr Wilson's latest ideas for the solution. It seems that the Icelanders are not greatly impressed by the voluntary limitations on Britain's catch agreed last weekend with the fishing industry.

David Cross writes from Strasbourg: Mr John Prescott, Labour MP for Kingston-upon-Hull and member of the European Parliament, is to try to mediate in the dispute between Britain and Iceland. He said at a press conference today that he will meet Icelandic leaders in Reykjavik in the next few days.

Mr Prescott, who has been a lone British spokesman for the Icelandic case in defiance of the general line taken by British MPs in fishing constituencies, wants to discover whether there is any chance of the Icelanders accepting a new deal along the lines of the British Government's latest offer.

Bomb set at Hearst castle hon

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m for Israel

to reject in advance a dialogue
with the Palestine Liberation
organisation. If the PLO
dropped its demands for Israel's
"liquidation", he added, talks
should be held with the organi-
zation.

He called for talks with any
Palestinian group that would
recognize Israel as a sovereign
Jewish state and would be
satisfied with the Jewish
state on the West Bank and in
the Gaza strip "with some sort
of connection between them".

Right-wingers believe that
Mr. Allon's move will be inter-
preted abroad as a sign that
Israel is weakening its re-
sistance to meet the PLO. The
evening newspaper Yediot
Aharanot, which usually ex-
presses right-wing views, argued
that Professor Avineri's
appointment "will lower
Israel's image even more in the
United States, where this will
doubtless be interpreted as a
sign of preparedness on Israel's
part for withdrawals and con-
cessions on each and every one
of her fronts, serving as a
signal to Dr. Kissinger".

The Likud has tabled an
urgent motion for the Knesset
agenda to denounce the
appointment. It has also been
criticized by Mr. Ze'evulun
Hammer, the Minister for
Social Welfare, and the Cab-
inet. Mr. Hammer said the
settlement throughout the West
Bank. He described it as "a

Lebanon's banks reopen after two months

Beirut, Feb. 12.—Banks in
Lebanon reopened today after
a two-month closure at the
height of the civil war, but
many bankers said there was
no rush to withdraw funds.

Financial experts said this
reflected the people's faith in
the ceasefire agreement
worked out by Syrian and
Lebanese leaders on January
22. Since then "life in the
capital has slowly returned to
normal".

Large numbers of security
men guarded Beirut's business
centre, while others kept watch
inside the banks.

Political sources said many
people were now hopeful for
the future because the latest
ceasefire, unlike the 25 others
before it, had been accom-
panied by a political agree-
ment. The ceasefire, they
estimated, caused \$5,000m
damage to the economy.

The Union of Hotel Owners
estimated today that the right-
ing had caused more than
\$200m in damage to Beirut
hotels.

A delegation from the union
drew up the estimate and sub-
mitted it to the Ministry of
Tourism after an inspection
tour of the hotel district yes-
terday.—Reuters, AP and UPI.

Invitations go out for an Arab summit

Cairo, Feb. 12.—Arab heads
of state were today invited to a
summit conference to discuss
differences among themselves
and decide policy towards
Israel, Arab diplomatic sources
said.

Mr. Mahmoud Riss, secre-
tary-general of the Arab League,
said he sent out invitations
and asked whether the meeting
should still take place in
Mogadishu. Several Arab states
have opposed meeting in
Somalia.

The summit was arranged for
last year, but was postponed
while Egypt negotiated another
invasion Sinai agreement with
Israel. Syria, with other radical
Arab regimes and the Palestine
National Organisation, opposed
the agreement.—AP.

Jordan adopts Syrian style for its army

Amman, Feb. 12.—The Jordan
Council of Ministers announced
today that Army laws and the
designation of Army ranks will
be "unified with the Syrian
Army style". This is in order
to achieve closer coordination
and unification, the official
announcement said.

King Husain and President
Assad of Syria formed a joint
political council and will now
decide on the new rank system
last spring. They have drawn
steadily closer since then and
have exchanged several visits.—AP.

says reported curb on crossing bridge is insult to church

More recently, a Knesset
member alleged that United
Nations officers and Christian
clergy were in this Middle East,
immunity from search at the
bridges to smuggle hashish.
Christian leaders have protested
at this accusation.

Since taking over from the
Vice-President, Robert Skop-
ford, Dr. Haddad has assumed
responsibility for the reorgan-
ized diocese of Jerusalem which
includes the Anglican and Epis-
copal communities in Jordan,
Lebanon and Syria as well as in
Israel.

The diocese has 24 priests and
more than 4,000 communicants,
most of them Arab. The bishop
soon found he was treading an
ecclesiastical minefield. An
international newspaper com-
demned the presence of Israel
officials at the service marking
his elevation, though this was
simply a matter of protocol
observed by all churches.

Earlier, the Jerusalem Post
had carried reports implying
that the appointment of an Arab
bishop to Jerusalem marked a
political shift towards the Arabs
by the Anglicans.

Church leaders were of the
economic and social problems
caused to his fellow Arabs
by the Middle East dispute. Dr.
Haddad has studiously refrained
from political expressions.

But, as the only Arab head of
a major religious community in
Jerusalem he faces heavy pres-

sures from all sides. His res-
ponsibilities have been increased
by the reforms in the church's
structure in this Middle East,
which set up four dioceses in
Jerusalem, Egypt, Iran, and
Cyprus, and the Gulf, with
elected bishops and emphasis
on "consoling the people"
instead of central control.

Dr. Haddad is a 50-year-old
in late middle age, from a
Christian family which traces
its roots to the days of the
Apostles. The Haddads (liter-
ally the "Smiths" of the Arab
world) are of the Ghassani
tribe, which began to join the
early Christian church after
Joseph of Arimathea and
Timon had preached in their
towns. The Ghassanis sided with
the Byzantine empire against
the Persians and stuck to their
Christian faith when Islam was
sweeping the Holy Land.

The bishop is a third genera-
tion Anglican. His father's
father, a goldsmith from Nablis,
and his mother's father, both
joined the Anglican church
from other Christian sects.

The church has officially
changed its title to Episcopal,
the name used in the United
States. If Dr. Haddad should
have trouble over his permit, he
should be able to call on Ameri-
can as well as British support.
President Ford is a fellow Epis-
copalian. So is Mrs. Nancy
Kissinger.

gress government at may fall

There is a possibility that the
Congress Party, which has 73
members in the House, may
challenge the Janata govern-
ment in the Assembly, which is
in session. Mr. Feroz has also
said that the Congress Party
is strong in the House.

The Punjab Assembly has uni-
formly adopted a resolution
urging the Indian Government
to persuade the British Govern-
ment to exempt Sikhs from
wearing helmets while riding
motor-cycles in the United
Kingdom. The resolution said
that there were strong feelings
among the Sikh community
against the British law.

Dacca, Feb. 12.—Indian and
Bangladesh officials are holding
talks here aimed at settling
problems which have led to dis-
turbances on the northern bor-
der of Bangladesh.

Reports in the local press
said that gunmen who attacked
police stations on the border at
Mymensingh and kidnapped a
police officer and his family
last month operated from Indian
territory and carried sophisticated
weapons.—Reuters.

Portuguese Timor 'under pro-Indonesian control'

Jakarta, Feb. 12.—Portuguese
Timor is now entirely controlled
by pro-Indonesian forces, the
armed forces newspaper
Angkatan Bersenjata reported
today. It quoted General
Maraden Panggabean, the
Defence Minister, as saying that
the left-wing Fretilin indepen-
dence movement no longer
administered any territory.

Speaking after talks yester-
day with President Suharto, he
said: "The fact that the United
Nations envoy was unable to
meet Fretilin forces in Timor
proves that the whole of East
Timor is now controlled by the
provisional Government", the
general stated.

The envoy, Signor Vittorio
Wispensere Guicciardi, was re-
ported to have conferred with
Senhor Melo Antunes, the
Portuguese Foreign Minister, in
Lisbon yesterday. He also held
talks with officials of the pre-
Indonesian Provisional Govern-
ment in East Timor and the
Indonesian and Australian
Governments as part of his fact-
finding mission; but he failed
to meet certain representa-
tives of Timor.

The Indonesian press re-
ported last week that Indo-
nesian flags had been hoisted
in all parts of Portuguese
Timor.

Canberra, Feb. 12.—Mr.
Andrew Peacock, the Australian
Foreign Minister, said today
that, short of an armed conflict
with Indonesia, Australia could
only use its good offices with
the United Nations and with
Indonesians themselves to ease
the East Timor crisis.

In a television interview, Mr.
Peacock said he regarded
Australia's relationship with
Indonesia as being of "extra-
ordinary importance".

The Australian Government
believed there were certain
acceptable standards of inter-
national behaviour, which had
been breached in the Indo-
nesian invasion of the
Portuguese colony. Australia
would ask to speak at the
Security Council when it dis-
cussed the report on Timor
from Signor Guicciardi.—
Reuters.

Hint of strain among China leaders

Peking, Feb. 12.—A wall
poster campaign against Mr.
Teng Hsiao-ping—who was ex-
pected to become Prime Minis-
ter after the death last month
of Mr. Chou En-lai—has started
at Peking University amid signs
of increasing strain within the
Chinese leadership.

Foreigners who visited the
campus said posters clearly
alluding to Mr. Teng had been
pasted up, accusing him of be-
ing a "capitalist road" and
the emotive term used for Chou
en-lai's enemies during the
Cultural Revolution.

Until last week, Mr. Teng, a
senior Deputy Premier, was seen
as one of the strong men in the
state hierarchy; but last Satur-
day China surprised the world
by appointing Mr. Hua Kuo-feng,
the Security Minister, as acting
Prime Minister.

Sources said posters started
appearing at Peking University
two days ago. They did not men-
tion Mr. Teng by name but iden-
tified him by quoting his most
famous saying: "I do not care
whether a cat is black or white
as long as it catches mice".

Mr. Teng, a political moder-
ate, was attacked as a "capital-
ist road" by ultra-leftist Red
Guards during the Cultural Re-

Unpredictable path of Chinese politics that Sino-ologists here hesitated to write Mr. Teng off as a political force.

Many observers saw the
selection of Mr. Hua as setting
Prime Minister as a compromise
between radicals and moderates,
and a sign of heated debates in
the Communist Party hierarchy.

Meanwhile, the People's Daily
today published its second
attack within a week on un-
named capitalist roaders. An
article by Shanghai steel
workers declared that a struggle
had to be waged against "those
who refuse to repent and who
vainly attempted to alter the
party's basic line".

Foreign students at Peking
University were allowed into
the partitioned area where the
posters were displayed and take
notes. They reported special
buses carried Chinese to the
site.

Some posters were said to
attack people who wanted to
practise revisionism and re-
store capitalism. Another stated
that in the eyes of "reactionary
rightists the civil and disorder
pleas directed at this disorder
the consequence of the Cultural
Revolution and the revolu-
tionary line of Chairman
Mao".—Reuters.

Fighting off the Devil with a brass band



The Household Troops Band of the Salvation Army: 1887-1891. Formed under the inspiration of "Mr Herbert" Booth who was in charge of the training garrison at Clapton. He organized campaigns throughout the British Isles and some on the Continent. This was the forerunner of the Home Office Band—later to become the International Staff Band. Staff-Captain Appleby was the leader.

A brass band on a street corner trumpet-
ing, thumping, jingling, and generally
making a joyful noise to God means one
thing: the Salvation Army. It is a
hundred years since William Booth
recognized that music could be a weapon
of salvation, and decided no longer to let
the Devil get away with all the best
tunes. In 1878, he set up as music
publisher with Revival Music, a collection
of hymns and gospel songs used by the
Christian Mission, as his Army was known
until 1878. This contained such hot gospel
tunes as "Gather at the River, Rescue
the Perishing, and of course, "Play the
music, playing the happy song, Loud
bassanah, shout with the happy throng".

Booth's attitude to music was strictly
evangelical. He wrote in his preface: "It
would be an unseemly grief to me were I
to find that the publication of this
volume had diverted the attention of
anyone from spiritual service to mere
human performances, however pleasing or
attractive".

In the early days, at least, he need not
have worried. The performance of the
first Salvation Army band was agreed by
the musical society to be a new horror to
the thought of the choir. Wordsworth
had something like it in mind
when he wrote: "Sweetest melodies are
those that by distance made more
sweet".

Booth's first brass band was formed by

accident. Charles Fry, a Salisbury builder,
and his three sturdy sons were enlisted
as bodyguards for meetings. Fry senior
happened to play the cornet. His sons
all played brass instruments loudly. So
they brought their instruments along, and
started to accompany the songs in the
market-place, in between hours of chuck-
ing-out hoodlums. Early Salvation Army
music was identified with symbols for
those who could not read. A picture of
a box at the top of the sheet signified
Out on the Ocean Sailing. Oh to be Over
Yonder was indicated by a drawing of a
weary man fumbling his way towards an
armchair. There was considerable perse-
cution of these primitive Army bands, under
local environmental by-laws against noise
nuisance, perturbation of the streets,
and disturbance of the peace. Many
bandmen were imprisoned.

The Army has travelled a long way in
the century since those discordant pionee-
ring days. This year 10,000 Salvation Army
bandmen in Britain are celebrating their
centenary with "music on the march"
down the main streets of Britain. Since
1878 the Army has published 3,000 band
books, more than 1,000 congregational
books, and nearly 10,000 songs with music.
It publishes weekly The Musician, with
a circulation of 25,000; a quarterly called
The Musical Salvationist; four separate
journals with different kinds of music
for bands; and many individual publica-
tions. Major Ray Steadman-Allen, head

of the Army's international music
editorial department, has a staff of five to
satisfy the voracious demand for new
music. Their principal current project is
a completely new congregational song
book called Keep Singing to be published
in June. Next door to their offices they
have a fine museum exhibiting such
influential musical instruments as "the
Founder's Organ and the fiddle of
Richard Slater, the father of Salvation
Army music".

It is no longer a matter of massed
tambourines and brass making up in
volume for what they lack in pitch and
key. The quality of the music has
improved, so that the top Salvation Army
bands rank with the finest brass and silver
bands in the land.

Ray Steadman-Allen has a degree in
music from Durham University, and is a
proud composer. The current issue of
the main band journal includes an elegant
and tricky new trombone four-part
himself entitled Sparkling Slides. But music
still takes second place to salvation. Ray
Steadman-Allen says: "You cannot
evaluate Army music aesthetically, without
taking into consideration what the Army
is for. We have no wish to be the
loudest, noisiest of the world. But our
music must continue to be functional as
distinct from purely aesthetic. Our mis-
sion, our message, our praise, and our
worship embody our musical function."

Philip Howard

Why your body needs those golden slumbers

Difficulty in sleeping is one of
the most common reasons that
people consult their doctors.
Hundreds of millions of sleep-
less nights are suffered every
year in an attempt to combat
insomnia. Is "a good night's
sleep" as valuable as we be-
lieve, or is it a luxury
rather than a necessity?

Answers to this question are
beginning to emerge from the
sleep research laboratories that
have sprung up since the
development of methods of
recording brain activity during
sleep. All our time sleep is not
spent in the same state. For
most of the sleeping hours the
body is quiet and relaxed with
the heart rate and breathing
slowed. Four stages of this
type of sleep can be recognized,
with the depth becoming pro-
gressively more profound from
stage one to stage four. A
second type of sleep is recog-
nizable from the bursts of rapid
eye movements (REM) that
occur and from changes in the
electrical behaviour of the
brain. In this "paradoxical"
or REM sleep the heart rate
and breathing are slowed and
blood flow through the brain
is greater than when awake.
Anyone woken from REM sleep
will recall vivid dreams; in
contrast, if awakening occurs
during stage one sleep, any re-
collection of a dream is most un-
reliable. The dreams that occur
in REM sleep may not be re-
called at the end of the night
but an individual may recall
he had an uninterrupted night's
sleep even though he woke and
gave a vivid account of a dream
to a companion.

Typically we pass into deep,
stage three or four, sleep
shortly after dropping asleep,
and after 90 minutes or so we
move into the short period of
stage one sleep. The REM
states then alternate throughout
the night, with the REM periods
becoming predominant towards
morning, and with increasingly
long periods, too, of lighter
stage two sleep. About half the
night is spent in stage two, 20
per cent in stages three and
four, 25 per cent in REM sleep,
and 5 per cent dozing or in
light, stage one sleep.

The body's irresistible need
for sleep suggests that it has
some vital function, and evi-
dence is accumulating that most
bodily restoration, repair and
growth take place at night.
Almost all of the secretion of
human growth hormone occurs
during sleep, when several other
hormones, such as prolactin,
reach peak concentrations, too.
New cells are formed in the skin
and other organs most rapidly
shortly after the start of sleep,
and it seems that the amount
of the deep stages of normal
sleep is closely associated with
physical fatigue. Men who have
taken strenuous exercise
throughout the day seem to need
more of this type of sleep.

In contrast, REM sleep is
mainly concerned with restora-
tion of the brain to alertness.
The increase in blood flow
through the brain in this state
suggests that energy is being
consumed by the synthesis of
new brain protein. Certainly
during the first year of life,

when the brain is growing
rapidly, a baby spends half its
sleeping hours in REM sleep.
Sleep is closely linked with
memory, which explains the
ease with which poetry or the
speech may be learnt if read
through a few times at bedtime.
It is tempting to speculate that
the vivid dreaming that occurs
during REM periods is due to
some process of the brain sort-
ing the events of the previous
day before they are entered into
the memory banks.

If, then, sleep has these
restorative roles, how much do
we need? Individual variation
is disconcertingly large. Some of
us sleep nine or more hours a
night; others function perfectly
on between two and three hours.
Even newborn babies may sleep
for as little as 10 or 15 as many
as 22 hours a day, but it is
certainly true that children
sleep longer than adults and we
all recognize that sleep require-
ments decline gradually during
the first 20 years of life.

Less well-known is the pro-
gressive decline in sleep that
continues through adult life
until late middle-age. So coordi-
nated are we to the concept of
"eight hours good sleep", how-
ever, that most people spend
just as long in bed each night
at the age of 50 as they did at
20; but less of this time is spent
in sleep and more in dozing.
With age, too, the sleep pattern
becomes more broken, and
awakenings in the night more
frequent. In old age sleep and
wakefulness alternate round the
clock, with frequent awakenings
during the daylight hours. At

A shopper's guide to Price Check

There is an important differ-
ence between the Government's
new Price Check scheme and
the "voluntary" agreement to
hold down prices which lasted
until June last year: it is the
expenditure of up to £1m of
Government money on pub-
licizing the new scheme.

Price Check is the programme
involving price increases to a
ceiling of 5p in the pound until
mid-August on items of im-
portance in household shopping
bills. The list agreed by the
Government, industry and shop-
keepers includes a few foods.

As soon as grocers heard
about the Government adver-
tising budget they became keen
attackers, longing to kick infla-
tion in the shins and clout it
round the head.

The attraction was this:
grocers knew that the Govern-
ment would put commercials on
television saying that inflation
was being curbed on certain
products thanks to Price Check.
That would give a marvellous
boost to the grocer who could
buy the next seconds of air

time to say: "This is how we
are cooperating with the Gov-
ernment on your behalf."

Co-operative Societies and
Spar shopkeepers have decided
to use the red triangle symbol
in their own publicity. Many
other companies will do like-
wise in a great fanfango of
advertising that any sometimes
come close to confusing rather
than clarifying. Here is what to
look out for.

Holler-thought attitudes.
Some companies may phrase
their advertisements in a way

that makes it appear that they
are somehow cooperating more
ardently than their rivals. Take
no notice. Price Check was
agreed at the highest level for
almost all the shopkeepers in
the country on equal terms.

Trading gambits. Some com-
panies strive constantly to en-
large sales of goods packed
under their own labels because
they have greater control of
supplies and prices of these
than of national brands like
Heinz, Crosse & Blackwell, and
so on.

Price Check presents a golden
opportunity to cash in on anti-
inflationary fervour by holding
down prices of own-label goods
in order to increase sales. Spar
grocers said yesterday that they
would apply the 5p in the £1
ceiling operating on Price
Check to several Spar products
that were not on the Govern-
ment's list. They ranged from
instant mashed potato to tomato
sauce.

Asked if his company was
merely listing products that



were not likely to rise anyway,
and which had recently been
increased. Mr. Michael
Reynolds, managing director of
Spar, said: "There are certain
items that have had marginal
increases in price. I think
biscuits have gone up 1p."

Unrealistic price caps. This is
not directly related to Price
Check, but results nevertheless
from Government tinkering.
Some supermarkets have taken
to pricing subsidized foods like
cheese and butter with labels
that say: "Statutory maximum
price X, our price Y." The gap
between X and Y usually
appears large, but only because
the statutory maximum is ac-
ademic and of more interest to
lawyers than shoppers.

The maximum is the very
highest that any shop in the
country is allowed to charge,
and a comparison with that and
supermarket prices is not a
practical guide to value.

Hugh Clayton

SPORT

Football

Flu knocks out Norwich-Bradford tie

Bradford City, laid low by influenza, have had their FA Cup fifth-round tie against Norwich City, at Norwich, postponed by the FA. The fourth division club requested a postponement after the goalkeeper, Peter Downsbrough, and former Welsh international, Trevor Hockey, had become the latest victims of the epidemic.

An FA spokesman said: "Bradford have been left with seven of their contract players unfit and they are without a goalkeeper in these circumstances. We had no hesitation but to comply, immediately, with their request that the match should be put off." Stephen Thompson, the Bradford secretary, had reported to the FA that the players had no chance of being fit for the weekend.

The other full professionals sick are Cyril Poon, Roy Cooper, Ron Johnson, Gerry Ingram and Don Hutchings. The manager, Bobby Kennedy, and apprentice professional, Clive McPadrae, are also ill. City were effectively reduced to eight professionals. The tie will now take place at Carrow Road on Wednesday, February 18. Kick-off 7.30 pm.

Peter Osgood and Peter Taylor, two of the most skilful players outside the first division, were suspended for two games by an FA disciplinary commission in London yesterday after reaching 20 penalty points. The suspensions start 14 days after the last offence and that rules Osgood out of Southampton's Cup match at West Bromwich, Taylor, who exceeded the points limit when he was sent off in the 4-1 defeat at Rotherham on Tuesday, can play for Crystal Palace at Chelsea but he would be ineligible for a replay.

Taylor, who made a personal plea for leniency, said: "It was a very fast hearing and I am pleased with the result." At the moment the England Under-23 winger stands to miss the game at Peterborough on Wednesday and the visit of Wycombe on Saturday. The Peterborough game will be played only if the Cup tie does not require a replay.

Taylor, who arrived nearly 20 minutes late for the hearing, is often the target of provocative remarks. In the past he has been known to retaliate, but he admitted: "I have got to live with being kicked or I will be here again. It is always me that ends up in trouble."

Confirmation of Taylor's troubles came from physiotherapist, Charlie Simpson, who went with the player to the FA. He comes in for treatment every Sunday morning without fail. He wears shin pads when he plays, but still gets cuts on his ankles.

Simpson said Taylor has been sent off twice this season. The other occasion was at Swindon on November 4.

The Rotherham game, refereed by John Yates (Reading), was far more controversial. Derby officials were also sent off and the FA have confirmed that Jim Cannon has been charged with bringing the game into disrepute for a comment he made at Mr Yates at the final whistle.

In addition Terry Venables, the Palace coach, could face a similar charge. The FA have written to him asking for an explanation of remarks he is alleged to have made after the match.

Osgood, apart from missing the cup game, is barred from the home game with Orient on February 21. Lawrie McMenemy, the manager, said: "It is a far decision. We did not attend the hearing as I think managers should leave these things up to the commission. I had resigned myself to the fact that Osgood would be out for the cup tie."

Two other decisions taken were: Brendan Batson (Cambridge) suspended for three games and Ron Fletcher (Luton Town) for two.

Today's fixtures
THIRD DIVISION: Watford v Northampton, 7.30; Exeter v Plymouth, 7.30; Crewe v Luton, 7.30.
FOURTH DIVISION: Gillingham v Reading, 7.30; Brighton v Ipswich, 7.30.

Rugby Union
Gibson relinquishes the Irish captaincy

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent
Mike Gibson, of his own volition, has stepped down from the captaincy of Ireland. The XV to play Wales in Dublin on Sunday week shows four changes from the team that was beaten in Paris, and it will be led by the wing three-quarter Tommy Seymour, who toured South Africa with the British Lions in 1974.

Pat Lavery, of London Irish, who played against Wales two seasons ago, will replace Gibson in the centre; Fergus Slattery, dropped after the Australian international played in a Bank Holiday game, will replace Slattery in the wing; and there are two new caps—a total which may not satisfy those across the Channel who have been waiting for a new captain since the 26-3 defeat by France.

The new men are Donal Canine, a tall 25-year-old scrum-half, now with London Irish, who previously with Cork Constitution, in whose colours he played with the Irish team; and John Robble, a scrum-half, who played for the Irish team in the second row.

In a letter to the selectors Gibson said that throughout his international career he has regarded the ability to concentrate throughout 80 minutes of a match as one of the most essential qualities. This season Ireland under his leadership have been beaten by Australia and France in the first two tests. He said he was divided between his responsibilities as a player and as a captain. The sharp edge of selection has been dulled by an attention to the performance of the other members of the side. In the interests of the Irish team I therefore prefer to offer my contribution as player and not as a captain.

Gibson tells me that this decision, which is wholly his own, was made in his mind before Ireland's first test in Paris last week. "Somehow I felt mentally drained. I felt I could concentrate more if my mind was free. I wasn't exhausted before playing."

Certainly, his form has been subject to widespread criticism this season. The two Irish internationals have not, by most accounts, been up to scratch, and I can personally vouch that he was some way below par when playing for the Barbarians against the Australians. On that day my mind for some reason was excessively tense. We all wanted to play well, but we were out of sync, and we couldn't relax," he said.

He declares himself satisfied by his defensive play and general contribution for Ireland in Paris, but admits to missing the full degree of sharpness that he hopes by his latest decision may now be released. From what I saw of the match on television, he had precious little good ball to play with. Gibson always trains himself against a stoppage, and he is adamant that over the past five years he has lost none of his speed. I would be inclined to agree with that estimate, having seen him play many times. He is a powerful player and a good tackler. He is also a good ball carrier and a good passer. He is a good player and a good captain.

McMenemy has had more than a poor record in his career. Keeping the team together after relegation to the second division two years ago has been a battle against persistent inquiries from wealthy clubs and rumours of a move to the first division. He has been a good manager and a good player. He has been a good captain and a good leader. He has been a good player and a good captain.

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Cheltenham's cup hopes received another blow yesterday when the defender, Graham Watkins, pulled a thigh muscle in training. "I would say he is almost certainly out of Saturday's tie," the manager, Eddie McCreadie, said. This is the third setback for McCreadie in as many days. On Tuesday, he heard that the striker, Ian Hutchinson, had been forced to retire from the game because of a knee injury, and 24 hours later he had to send Garner home from training with a hamstring injury. "Garner is still in bed, but I am hoping he will be okay," he said. Better news is that Droy, out for four games, and Hay, who missed last week's game at Oxford, are fit.

David Mackay, the Derby County manager, who has no injury problems this week, will check his line-up for the tie with Southend United today. Mr Mackay has not ruled out the possibility that the regular substitute, Davies, may be included in the team with Lee relegated to 12th man.

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Running game beaten by the kickers
By Gordon Allan
St Bartholomew's 9 St Mary's 0
There was a change of venue on Tuesday in the Hospital Cup rugby competition, and another yesterday when St Bartholomew's beat St Mary's 9-0 at Richmond. The game was played behind closed doors at Richmond, and the result was a surprise. St Bartholomew's, who were the underdogs, won the cup.

The main pitch is being preserved for tomorrow's doings, so the game was played behind the stand yesterday. On a dry day the pitch was in good condition, and the game was played in a spirit of sportsmanship. St Bartholomew's, who were the underdogs, won the cup.

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Olympic Games

Czechoslovaks catch slight cold from a medicinal compound



From John Hennessey

Innsbruck, Feb 12
The International Olympic Committee's medical committee have discovered evidence of doping during the 12th Winter Games here and have taken appropriate action against the Czechoslovak ice hockey team. A urine test taken from the captain, Frantisek Pospisil, contained codeine and the points and goals accumulated in their match against Poland two days ago have been annulled.

The IOC, as with the case of Galina Knaikova (a gold medal winner for the Soviet Union today), found that the Czechoslovak team had taken codeine to relieve a headache. The codeine was found in a sample taken from the team's baggage. The IOC has decided to suspend the team for two days and to annul their results.

Many people will be surprised that such drastic action has been taken for the use of what is a common over-the-counter medicinal preparation for a common cold or headache. Nor does it appear in the list of prohibited substances in the IOC's medical control. It is, however, in the list of "restricted substances" and its use is prohibited in the list of "restricted substances" and its use is prohibited in the list of "restricted substances".

Professor Arnold Beckett, of London University, offered us the expert opinion that when administered in the form of a 20 per cent of codeine is transformed into morphine. Had a further test been undertaken in the present case, it would have confirmed the presence of morphine, but that was unnecessary as codeine was known to be a related compound.

The International Olympic Federation rules do not exactly correspond to those of the IOC and they would have been prepared to exonerate the Czechoslovak team. However, the IOC is governed not only by the rules of individual federations but also by those of the IOC.

The chairman of the medical committee, explained that all doctors had been brought to Innsbruck to ensure that they were aware of all the circumstances. There is such an epidemic of colds in the city that many people have at some time had to resort to a tablet, a potion or a nasal spray. It was claimed that the Czechoslovak team had taken codeine to relieve a headache.

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Joy follows triumph: Curry with his mother at Innsbruck

Two days of Curry's life that seemed the longest

From Dennis Bird

Innsbruck, Feb 12
After his great triumph last night, Britain's Olympic figure skating champion John Curry, was not alone in feeling that the two days of his life seemed the longest. He was joined by his mother, Mrs. Curry, who was with him at the competition. They both felt that the two days of his life seemed the longest.

He pointed out that codeine was a drug that could be dangerous in large doses, because of its morphine content. It was a common over-the-counter medicinal preparation for a common cold or headache. Nor does it appear in the list of prohibited substances in the IOC's medical control. It is, however, in the list of "restricted substances" and its use is prohibited in the list of "restricted substances".

Oddly enough, the loss of these ice hockey points are not as serious as the loss of the Olympic Games. The Czechoslovak team had taken codeine to relieve a headache. The codeine was found in a sample taken from the team's baggage. The IOC has decided to suspend the team for two days and to annul their results.

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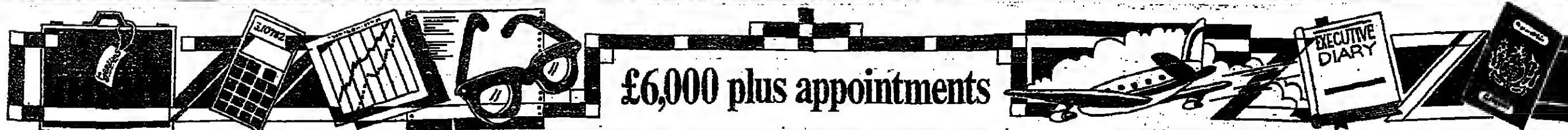
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He



MANAGING DIRECTOR

To lead the largest operating Company with 1800 employees - and a turnover of about £12m - which is part of a long established and highly regarded British group. The Company has a dominant market position, achieved by in depth expertise and experience, in serving the high technology capital plant sectors with specialised precision piece parts.

The key tasks are to improve profitability and expand the business. Tempo is exacting and success relates to delivery on time, to quality, and to cost.

A record of sustained career progress is sought in the direction of a business in which performance standards are stringent. Equal emphasis will be placed on a record of progressive achievement in man management and the utilisation and development of human resources.

Challenge, scope, and opportunity abound in this appointment. It will be attractive to those with progressive and professional management competence who seek to direct the dynamics and performance of a complex business.

Age: about 40 but this is of less importance than the record of achievement. The location is North Midlands.

Salary indicator is £19,500 with car provided.

Letters should include a detailed curriculum vitae which will be handled in confidence by Dr A G Roach.

ROACH

A G ROACH & PARTNERS,
8 HALLAM STREET, LONDON W1N 6DJ

The tell or not to tell argument

Despite the wide agreement in favour of companies disclosing more information to their employees, the extent and mechanisms of such a policy are still the subject of angry debate.

However, with the prospect of statutory regulations on disclosure to come, many companies are carrying out wide-ranging reappraisals of their existing communications machinery as a matter of priority. These voluntary attempts to produce a socially acceptable spread of company knowledge have already produced clear evidence that employers hold widely differing views about the scope of information that should be passed on, who should pass it on and even who should receive it. And a study of existing practices recently completed by the British Institute of Management, in an attempt to find out how executives are likely to be affected by pending legislation, reveals a vast spectrum of attitudes and interpretation among United Kingdom companies.

The study discovered, for example, that while more than 50 per cent of public companies believed in giving their middle managers more information than they gave to shareholders, a surprising 13 per cent actually disclosed less to this group. At the same time some 25

per cent of these companies claimed to give more information to their manual workers than to shareholders.

For a clearer picture of communication to staff in British companies, the BIM survey classified the main types of information under four headings: personnel data, income data, general performance indicators and future plans. The 391 firms covered by the survey were required to give details of their disclosure provisions in each category. Of the 294 participating firms which recognized unions, the study showed that most regularly supplied basic personnel and income data to union representatives, although a quarter of these companies made no systematic disclosure of routine information. About 25 per cent of the sample disclosed general performance indicators and future plans on a regular basis.

The study did find, however, that despite the diversity in the depth of information supplied many firms with unions were fairly consistent in advocating the use of joint consultation bodies for passing on data, rather than direct contact with union representatives. This was found to be particularly true for "good news" items regarding performance indicators rather than "bad news" items which were often routed to the unions.

The survey shows that information of varying depth to top executives to more was provided regularly to all employees by 56 per cent of the firms, with house of a company or its product, journals, notice boards, written communications to individuals and briefing instruments. Special reports were issued by 22 per cent of firms and this technique appeared to be growing fast according to the report's author, Mr Robin Smith.

One of the greatest problems seen by companies in operating fuller communications systems was the danger of employees failing to understand or misinterpret the information supplied. About 35 per cent of the companies questioned were already taking definite steps to overcome this by providing training on the main aspects of information handling.

warrant its disclosure only to obvious structural problems like the geographical spread of a company or its product diversity.

However, a severe indictment of executive attitudes is represented in one major problem mentioned by several employers. When they were asked to spell out the difficulties encountered in operating an information policy, the number identifying poor communications from management was three times greater than those identifying bad union communications, the report says. For example, the report quotes one employer as saying: "Great reluctance on behalf of senior and line managers to pass information to workers. Bad briefing of middle management by directors." Another boss noted: "reactionary tendencies of senior management", and a third respondent pinpointed an "inherent conflict" between an organizational goal and the personal ones held by managers: "The sensitivity of some top managers to communicating information which could attract criticism."

Richard Allen

Keeping Employees Informed: BIM survey report No 31.

TECHNICAL SERVICES SECRETARY c. £8000

The London Borough of Bexley is building in more than one sense. Bexley is big business—an annual revenue budget of over £34m and a work force of some 9,000—both of which need to be managed as effectively as in any other business. The Council has restructured its structure and working systems so as to provide the Borough with reliable and effective management. We now have a small number of Directorate Teams each with a Director, several Chief Officers and a Secretary. The Teams, or "subsidiary companies", report to the Management Board made up of the Chief Executive with the Directors.

At the heart of this organisation are four Secretaries—high-powered administrators on the staff of the Director of Administration but working within the Service Directorates. Each Secretary is a full member of the Directorate Team making a substantial contribution to our corporate management processes, providing valuable support for the Council's scarce professional

resources and advising the Council on the formulation of policies. The Secretary will also provide support for the Members by the servicing of Committees. Through the Administration Directorate the Secretary will help to hold together the Council's organisation as a whole.

With a forthcoming retirement we need a Technical Services Secretary (£7,842-£8,547) for the Joint Directorates of Engineering & Works and Development Services (Architects, Planning, Redevelopment and Valuation). The main qualifications for this job are an alert mind, an ability to make a positive contribution to top management and a first class record in public administration. If you think you can meet our challenge an application form and further information (including a wider explanation of our management philosophy) is available from the Director of Manpower Services, Town Hall, Erith, Kent, DA8 1TL or telephone 01-303 7777 ext. 430. Closing date 8th March, 1976.

Bexley is Building—Its Future could be Yours!

Chief Executive Iran

Age 35-45

Neg. £15,000 equivalent + normal benefits

- The Person** Preferably with a qualification in Mechanical or Electrical Engineering, but may well come from a different background, with ideally a proven track record in profitable management in Iran or Middle East for several years. Must be able and ambitious with commercial experience and entrepreneurial flair.
- The Position** To assess and recommend the best approach to further the Group's interests and objectives using the knowledge and experience of this market. It is planned to build up a strong sales and management team for further development. Indefinite period at UK headquarters before going overseas.
- The Group** An expanding, profitable international British trading Group with headquarters in the UK operating in the construction, mechanical, electrical, power generation, medical, agricultural, technical equipment fields.
- The Benefits** This is a career appointment with potential for a permanent, pensionable position. All normal benefits attributable to this territory.

Please apply with brief personal details relating to this post or telephone in strictest confidence for further information to:

Rodney Radcliffe
34 Newman Street
London W1P 3FD
Tel: 01-580 3351

Right Match
Personnel Ltd.

WORLDWIDE GRAIN EXPORTING AGENCY wishes to interview for additional openings in its MARKET DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

bilingual persons with a practical and/or formal background in grain utilization such as
WHEAT MILLING AND BAKING DURUM PROCESSING
FEED TECHNOLOGY OR RELATED FIELDS.

The persons we have in mind will preferably have had a university level education and a cosmopolitan outlook while identifying with Canada. Excellent command of spoken and written English is essential. They will be bilingual with Spanish, German, French, Japanese, Arabic, Italian or other internationally useful tongue as the other language. Successful applicants will receive additional on-the-job training towards responsible activities notably devoid of routine. They must be prepared to study and work long hours independently when necessary, and to travel abroad extensively at short notice. Salary offered will be competitive and will vary with technical qualifications, experience, and linguistic ability. Those interested should submit a resume of qualifications and salary expectations, in strict confidence to P.O. Box 816, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, not later than February 20, 1976.

ROEHAMPTON INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Appointment of PRINCIPAL

The Governors of SOUTHLANDS COLLEGE (Methodist Foundation) invite applications for the post of PRINCIPAL which will become vacant upon the retirement of Miss Pauline Callard in August 1977. Particulars of the appointment are available from the Clerk to the Governors, Southlands College, Wimbledon Parkside, London SW19 5NN (Tel. 01-946 2234).

Closing date for applications 18th March, 1976.

Recruitment Manager/Manageress

We are one of the leading specialist Recruitment Agencies in the U.K. Due to further expansion we are looking for a Divisional Manager for one of our specialist groups. Previous sales and professional agency experience would be an advantage. The successful candidate will attract an above average salary, bonus and company car.

Please contact General Manager
PICO LTD.
26a High Street, Hounslow, Middlesex
01-752 7363

APPOINTMENTS

VACANT

ALSO

ON

PAGE 20

FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

A large firm of City Solicitors with a number of overseas offices seeks a qualified (probably Chartered) Accountant with proven EDP experience, gained preferably in a professional or commercial environment, to assume the important appointment of Financial Controller.

Reporting to the Executive Partner, the Financial Controller will be directly responsible for managing the accounting and EDP functions of the firm, and will also be expected to advise on and participate in the financial management of the firm both at home and overseas.

This position involves considerable responsibility and challenge, operating in a management capacity in a progressive and pleasant professional environment.

Remuneration will be negotiated according to age and experience, plus fringe benefits as may be expected from a large firm.

For further details, please apply in writing to Box 2240 S. The Times, giving details of qualifications and experience.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO CHAIRMAN

possibly aged c. 50; c. £8000 + car

The Chairman of a major and long established holding company which controls subsidiaries in the U.K., Canada, Australia and Europe seeks a mature and capable executive whose varied responsibilities will include: representing the Company on national and local bodies, special corporate projects, and all external relations. A successful career to senior management or board level where communicative and diplomatic skills have been essential attributes - is a prime requirement. Age probably 45-55; salary open to agreement; excellent conditions include assistance with removal expenses if necessary to East Berkshire.

Please send details of career to date, in confidence, to: A. Fergusson at 41, Pall Mall, London, SW1Y 5JG.

SELECTION THOMSON

Assistant Solicitor

Salary approaching £8,000

An experienced Solicitor is required in the Chief Solicitor's Office to undertake a wide variety of senior legal work. The emphasis will be upon promotion of Parliamentary Bills and Orders and rationalisation of local legislation and transfer of property. The post is based at the Authority's modern headquarters in the centre of Worthing and further particulars can be obtained from the Personnel Officer, Guildbourne House, Worthing, Sussex BN11 1LD. Closing date 27th February, 1976.

Southern Water Authority

NATIONAL VEGETABLE RESEARCH STATION

Wellesbourne, Warwick

APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR

Applications are invited for the post of Director of the Station in succession to Professor D. W. Wright who is shortly to retire. Appointment will be in the grade of Deputy Chief Scientific Officer (Salary scale: £10,100-£12,100 p.a.). A full, non-confidential curriculum vitae should be submitted.

The Station is an independent research institute established by the Agricultural Research Council, and its research programme covers all aspects of the production of vegetable crops. Applicants should be distinguished in a relevant science and have considerable experience of both horticulture and administration to be desirable. Applications should be sent before 18 April 1976 addressed to the Director of the Department of Horticulture, and an application form may be obtained from the Secretary of the Station.

H P Bulmer Limited

the Hereford based Cider Company is seeking a

Managing Director Cider Division

This is a main Board appointment and carries a salary in excess of £15,000 p.a. with the usual benefits, and follows the impending resignation of Peter Green, who has been appointed Chief Executive of Canada's largest wine manufacturer.

Bulmer's is an independent public company with an anticipated turnover and net profit before tax for the current financial year of £7.5m and £2.5m respectively. The Group has a distinctive (and not too earnest) management style and excellent industrial relations. Initiative is encouraged, great weight is attached to personal leadership and team building, and the maximum authority is delegated down the line.

This Director will be solely responsible for the profitable operation of the Cider Division, which is marketing oriented and forms the largest element of the Group, employing some 1,400 people, answerable to Brian Nelson, the Group Managing Director, who will consider each application with the Chairman, Peter Prior, in strict confidence, of course.

Suitably qualified and interested all-rounders should send a concise summary of personal details and attach it to an informative—and please not too long—covering letter.

Write to Brian Nelson, H P Bulmer Limited, Rylands Street, Hereford HR4 0LE.

H P BULMER LIMITED

HARINGEY

BOROUGH SECRETARY AND SOLICITOR

Salary: JNC Scale for Chief Officer
£11472—£12246 p.a. inc.

Following the appointment of the existing post-holder as Chief Executive of a neighbouring London Borough, applications are invited for the post of Borough Secretary and Solicitor who is a Chief Officer and, as a member of the Officers' Management Team, will be concerned with executing Council policy and the forward planning of the Council's affairs. The appointment carries responsibility for the management of the Borough Secretariat. The person appointed will be legal adviser to the Council and must be legally qualified, have considerable administrative experience and proven management ability. He/she will be required to maintain close collaboration with Members. Application form, job description, etc. together with further details from Chief Personnel Officer (Reference MKN), Civic Centre, Wood Green, London, N.22 returnable by 27 February 1976. Tel: 01-888 1282 Ext. 8.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

(SALARY RANGE £11,180-£13,460)

Glenrothes Development Corporation, one of the Scottish New Towns, seeks a successor to the present Chief Executive, to control the organisation and further development of both housing and industry within the New Town. The person appointed requires diplomacy and enthusiasm as well as administrative and technical skills to succeed in this exciting and challenging position.

Salary will be within the scale £11,180-£13,460.

The post is superannuable. A Car Loan Scheme and a Free Life Assurance Scheme are in operation. Removal expenses will be paid.

Applications, with the names of three referees to be submitted to the Chairman, Glenrothes Development Corporation, Glenrothes, Fife, not later Friday, 5 March, 1976, and endorsed "Chief Executive". There is no prescribed form of application.

Re-advertisement

Greater London Arts Association

Appointment of Director

Salary negotiable, but expected to be between £7,500 and £10,000.

Further particulars may be obtained by writing, giving ref. RA2/T, to:

The Correspondent,
Greater London Arts Association
25/26 Tottenham Place,
London W1C 8SF

Closing date for all applications
27 February 1976.

IT TOOK US 10 YEARS TO MAKE AN OVERNIGHT SUCCESS OF SILK CUT.

You're probably aware of Silk Cut's growing popularity.

Perhaps you've noticed the way people who didn't dream of smoking a mild cigarette eighteen years ago are now happily smoking ours.

Or how pubs that once refused to give us shelf space now willingly do.

What you may not have noticed is that during the 10 years of Silk Cut's life we made a number of small improvements to the cigarette.

Each aimed at increasing its effects, without any loss of flavour.

We started with our tobacco.

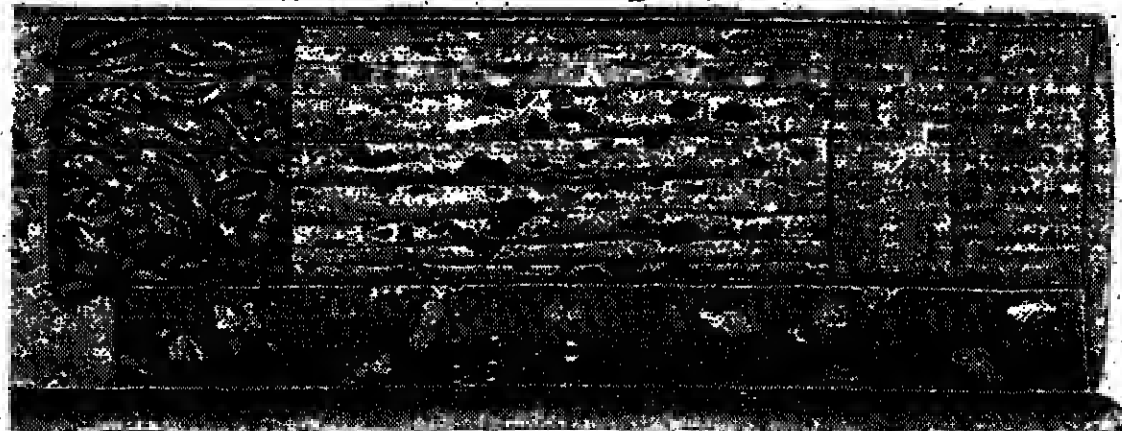
Tobacco blending to combine the flavour of the upper leaves with

the mildness of the lower ones. 1964-1972.

In the year Silk Cut made its debut, our tobacco blend was one of the few around that was both mild and satisfying.

We had an idea, though, that with a little hard work it might be possible to make our cigarette even milder.

So we set about the task of sorting through the different types of tobacco plants.



Charcoal filter. Introduced 1964.

And we experimented with blends made up with leaves taken from the tops and bottoms of plants.

In tobacco plants, the lower leaves, which are

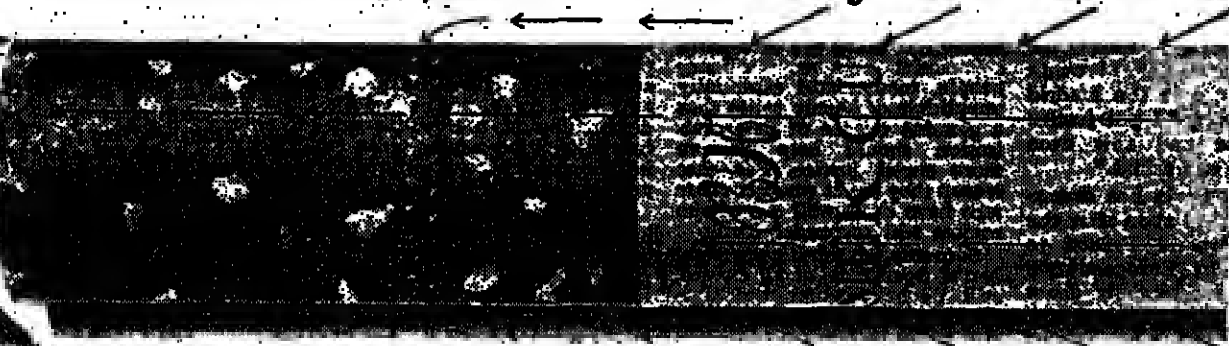
shaded from the sun, produce a milder smoke than the exposed upper ones.)

From the beginning we looked at the filter.

In ordinary cigarettes, filters are made of acetate and paper.

But the Silk Cut filter is a special charcoal filter that produces a smoother smoke than the conventional type.

Again, we wanted to find a way to make the smoke milder still. In fact, we found two ways.



Air ventilation. Introduced 1970.

The first was those small holes you see on the picture above.

They are Silk Cut's ventilation system.

When you draw, they allow air to be drawn into the filter to mix with the smoke that has travelled the length of the cigarette.

The second was the higher-porosity cigarette paper we began using last year.

The result of all these innovations was a cigarette



We've improved our range over the years too.

that was a touch milder than previously, and our smokers thought every bit as satisfying too.

Of course, while we were improving our cigarette, we also improved our range.

(There's now a version of the mild cigarette to suit every smoker's pocket.)

And naturally, we'll go on improving both range and cigarette in any way we can.

We've no intention of letting our success get in the way of that.

Silk Cut. The mild cigarette.

LOW TAR As defined by H.M. Government
EVERY PACKET CARRIES A GOVERNMENT HEALTH WARNING

formation like that of the bankers on Jobo Quintanilla Grubb. America recently and three weeks he was track down 400 of American Grubbs.

The association's for Reverend Geoffrey Grubb, died last year seen in his final book, *Grubbs around* on which he was working. It is a sequel to *The Grubbs of Tippecanoe*, Grubb's history family's progenitors. "Valkins-Grubb" has family the task of family news bullet called, as you might guess, *Grubbing At*.

Tearful

There was a more than moving preview of a play yesterday. It re of the stars, Kenneth tears, and even once the television reported watched were damp eyes when the lights

The play, *In Prison* is by Sir Terence Ratt revealed recently the cancer. It is about in the terminal leukaemia, and it has had a poignant history in the New York State bar husband was played by a woman whose name, Kandall, died of the Rattigan, who was friend of both, wrote that production another fatal illness.

More, irrepressible in his eyes in the last fully denied that he carried away by his former. "It was a big thing I'm afraid." As his character in *T* made to say: "They you bit somewhere in any god."

More doom. Derek Glasgow tells me that a shoe in Salamanca, ing its closing years, "the grandiose, like the whole of existence."

THE TIMES
ing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

RY GREENGROCER KNOWS

Mr. Exchequer Commons in debate on has set his general reflation before the im- would not be lation in the tional pro- agreement use of pay s July, had he next few instalment of unemployment in Sept- foreclosed owed closely Healey fore- employment will look first he measures ver the next imely about mpared with which would f a general dered safe in respects for lence of pay at 5 per cent above tional defini- ment? A the economy per cent of s normally e the unem- e by about t third of any ous to be in the form s or out of g into extra out of gross at present n. employment, to eighteen al reflation gth of these 1 Exchequer

cash stimulus of something like £15,000m. This is a sum so ridi- culously large as to suggest to any but the most incurable tradi- tionalists that general reflation cannot be a sensible way of attacking unemployment at present. But its very magnitude justifies the Chancellor's claim that the measures be announced yesterday cannot be regarded as in any sense an act of reflation. Even the £2,000m reflation for which the TUC has decided to press. Chancellor in the Budget puts yesterday's measures in perspective.

The overriding priorities of economic policy remain the same: first, that reflation—in the sense of Government budget- ary action to stimulate a rise in the total flow of spending in the economy faster than the normal growth in average output per man—must be avoided now and for ever; and, secondly, that every possible method must be used to persuade us all to make the right kind of skills and services available in the right places at a cost which will enable us all to be usefully employed without benefit of inflationary government finance.

Thus the ideas which the Chancellor has been canvassing for the next stages of pay restraint are far more relevant, not merely to the general economic outlook, but also to the prospects for employment over the next years and over the next decade, than any number of temporary devices for inducing people without real jobs to get off or stay off the unemployment register for a few months. His apparent suggestion that some degree of income tax relief can and should be substituted for some degree of leeway for in- creases in gross pay is thoroughly constructive.

Indeed, if the leaders of the TUC were able to rise completely above the pressures of industrial politics and to speak purely for the interests of trade unionists and all workers as a body, they would say to the Chancellor, let us have a nil norm for pay in- creases in exchange for a large enough rise in personal tax allowances to raise take-home pay in line with the normal in- crease in output per man, per- haps 3 per cent. In such circumstances, costs per unit of output and therefore prices would tend to fall, sales and out- put would rise rapidly and un- employment would fall rapidly.

It is, of course, not at all easy for men, placed as trade union leaders are, to come to terms with and to explain, to those whom they represent, a world in which every penny knocked off each year means higher standards of living and more jobs for everyone. The false option of big pay increases undertaken by Government "reflation"—which merely means sufficient in- jections of new money to raise prices enough to cancel out the extra purchasing power of the nominally larger pay packets—is easier to propound on political and trade union platforms.

But there are increasingly encouraging signs that there is widespread recognition of the futility of that approach to unemployment. Trade unionists and others are coming more and more to see that every green- grocer has always known—that there is only one reliable way to clear all your stock; and that is to charge a market-clearing price. Unemployment, which is disgrace- fully wasteful and shamefully humiliating in many cases, will decline as fast and as soon as we all forget Keynes and remember the greengrocer.

NS FLIES A KITE

Like propor- n, is one of r legislators r formerly ies or on erty of the enselves and people they mmonwealth ed out for constitutions rees of basic Rights has cepted as a y part of any lishing pro- in Northern R-Rights-like poken of as such statute receive.

public authority. They see the political demands now being pressed by Scotsmen, Ulstermen and (less convincingly) Welshmen as providing an occasion, or even amounting to a necessity, for this substitution. They are wrong. Constitution- making on this scale requires a revolution or enemy occupation to make way for it. Anyone who sees that coming may look forward to the day when the British constitution is written *de novo*. Anyone who does not see that coming must be content with the less dramatic prospect of piecemeal adaptation, occasional grafting, elasticity of precedent—all subject to a settled preference for the established way of doing things.

The narrow approach proceeds from the conviction that funda- mental civil rights in Britain now are insufficiently secure against trespass by an executive-dominant Parliament, by all-pervasive officials, by legally privileged trade unions, or by powerful business corporations. It is believed that these rights could be better secured by being embodied in a comprehensive statute which is entrenched or at least given some priority over other laws. Such a Bill of Rights could either be tailor-made or bought off the peg from Stras- bourg by incorporating the European Convention on Human Rights into our domestic law as it stands. One of the few indica- tions of reference Mr. Jenkins permitted himself to make in his speech last night was a preference for using the European Con- vention rather than embarking on a search for agreement about home-made articles.

The onus of showing reason rests in these matters with the innovators. They have to do more than make the case that civil rights need bolstering (always an easy case to make). They have to show that this particular device is efficacious, not elsewhere but here; and if effica- cious, that it does not have con- stitutional implications of an unwelcome kind.

Strangely enough it was Lord Hailsham, now a foremost Bill of Rights man, who, when wearing

a different wig in 1970, put most elegantly one of the reasons for thinking that these instruments may be less efficacious than they sound. They are of their nature declaratory, even declaratory in style. The rights they purport to guarantee are defined with considerable generality. They reflect, as Lord Hailsham then supposed, a relatively unsophisti- cated state of the law. The declaration that one has a right to life is fine and good, but the place to look for its legal effect is the Fatal Accidents Act of 1846 and other prosaic enact- ments. "The right to associate becomes the Trade Union Act of 1871. 'Thou shalt love thy neighbour' becomes, among other things, the employer's duty to fence machinery which is dangerous."

It is also a fact that civil rights are most in jeopardy at times of national emergency—witness Northern Ireland. All modern make provision for derogation from them at such times, but when they are most needed. This gives point to the emphasis which Mr. Jenkins placed on economic stability and the main- tenance of public order as preconditions for the effective guarantee of these rights.

When these objections are dis- posed of and it is shown that a Bill of Rights would indeed have high protective value, the consti- tutional implications of that fact have to be considered. One implication, which is likely to provoke some inter-party dis- agreement, is a substantial trans- fer of legislative initiative from Parliament to the judges. Some, distrustful of our parliamentary system, would welcome that. Others, conscious of the normally conservative complexion of any professionally raised judiciary, would not. Judicial legislation would moreover be the work of men and women who were not accountable to anyone except the other judges—and should not be other judges if their independ- ence is to be preserved, while appointments to the bench would necessarily become more overtly political.

bership, set up in 1973 to recom- mend on the Whitlam pledge for public lending right, considered the once-and-for-all royalty payment and loan scheme. It was felt that the once-and-for-all royalty payment would not give a continuing recom- pense for the use of the book over a period of years. The loan scheme was also considered but it was evi- dent that, for us, the costs would be immense and also the cooperation of librarians, many of whom still felt the free library system to be under threat in some way, even despite Government pledges, almost impossible to obtain. One great advantage of the books on shelf system was that it would provide a continuing income for writers throughout their life and into retirement.

Any scheme, as your writer pointed out, must be imperfect, but some can be less imperfect than others. The stock scheme is techni- cally feasible and acceptable to librarians. On a rotating sample, one of our librarians might expect to draw the catalogue for checking and \$41,000 for administrative costs. As it can be seen, costs have now been kept quite low for a scheme of this kind.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD HALL, Chairman,
Australian Authors Fund,
4-6 Elgin House, Elgin Street,
Sydney.
February 2.

Australian Authors Fund Committee appointed by the then Prime Minister, Whitlam, consisting of an independent chairman, a nominee of the Literature Board, representatives of authors, publishers and librarians, together with officers of Treasury and the Attorney-General's depart- ment.

For the first few years the scheme has operated on a ministerial decision without legislation. How- ever, on November 11, 1975, legisla- tion to regularise the scheme was listed on the notice paper of the House of Representatives. Legisla- tion provided an administrative framework and left settlement of details of operation as worked out by the Australian Authors Fund and approved by the Prime Minister. The Fraser Government has since indicated its support for the legisla- tion which should go forward in the next few months.

In the present financial year some \$600,000 has been allocated for payment to authors and publishers under Public Lending Right; \$55,000 for the survey to establish eligibility and \$41,000 for administrative costs. As it can be seen, costs have now been kept quite low for a scheme of this kind.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD HALL, Chairman,
Australian Authors Fund,
4-6 Elgin House, Elgin Street,
Sydney.
February 2.

Involvement of mercenaries in Southern Africa

From Mr Edward Hay
Sir, I should like to add to Mr George Maxwell's excellent letter which you published on Tuesday. I find it sad that the only point of interest for many Englishmen in the Angolan crisis is whether a few mercenaries (English, of course) have the right to go to Angola, and once there, to fight. Nobody appears to protest against British soldiers going out to Muscat to fight the same kind of people, using the same kind of weapons for very much the same reasons.

What is at stake in Southern Africa is far more important than the fate of a few hundred mercen- aries. What one would like to see is a British Government doing all in its power to prevent a Communist domination of Mozambique and Angola. For if the Communists have these two, Mozambique in the east, and Angola in the west, with them- selves as the major trading routes of the western world. And that must constitute a very real threat.

In the short term, the implica- tions for the rest of Southern Africa are grim. Whether it be Zambia or South Africa, Rhodesia or Botswana, black or white country that is, the very tenets of their democ- racy, great or small though they be, will be threatened with annihilation.

It is up to the Western World to see that sufficient pressure is put on the Communist bloc so that the continent of Africa may be free to determine its own existence.

Yours obedient servant,
EDWARD HAY,
11 Stock House,
Cundy Street, SW1.
February 10.

where, in the Act of 1870, assimilated to a "foreign state".

On January 10, 1937, Sir John Simon, then Home Secretary, was asked in the House of Com- mons by Mr. Mander about the application of the Act of 1870 to the departure of General Duff's "Irish Brigade" from British ports, destined for Spain. In his reply Sir John Simon stated: "... the Foreign Secretary was advised long after the outbreak of the civil war in Spain that it had from the beginning been illegal for any British subject to take service in the parties engaged in that war or for any person to induce others to take such service." (H. C. Debates, vol 319, col 323.)

Admittedly, the present situation in Angola presents features not present in the Spanish civil war. Never- theless, the substantive penal offence defined in section 4 of the Act of 1870: "... accepts any engagement ... in the military ... service of any foreign state at war with any foreign state at peace with Her Majesty ..." less in that wide definition of "foreign state" in section 30 each time that phrase is used in section 4. Thus, the fact that military service is currently possible in each of the three con- tending factions in Angola, none of which is recognized as a govern- ment or belligerent by HMG, may not be decisive in excluding the Act of 1870 from applying to citizens of the United Kingdom who may have offered their military services to any one of the three parties now engaged in armed conflict in Angola.

Perhaps, the words of a distin- guished jurist, the late Lord Macnair, in the context of the Spanish civil war, be apt to the present situation in Angola. "On the whole," he said in a lecture he delivered at Oxford on May 29, 1937, "I do not recommend any one to test by personal experience the view of the law expressed in the words of Lord Macnair in his 1870 reference became available. I am, Sir, your obedient servant, G. I. A. D. DRAPER, 16 Southover High Street, Lewes, Sussex, February 11.

I believe the opposite to be the case. The MPLA is undoubtedly widely backed in Angola as a liberation movement offering its people a more hopeful future than they ever had under Portuguese colonial rule. That it is going to run the country is certain and it is encouraging to know that many of its leaders are intelligent humanists with a wide outlook. One must hope that when a new overall administration is formed our own Government will quickly recognize and enter into a formal relationship with it, as various African states have already done in anticipation of its complete control.

I do not myself believe that the Soviet Union intends to establish any military base in Angola, though like the Cubans who openly moved in to counteract a largely concealed South African intervention their influence and advice will inevitably make an impression on Angola's new rulers.

If we and the West behave sensibly I believe there is a real prospect of a happy unification of today's warring elements in Angola—as remarkable as that which occurred in Kenya when foreign elements stopped interfering in that strife torn country.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
T. C. SKEFFINGTON-LODGE,
5 Pavia Grove,
Brighton.
February 11.

From Mr D. R. Harris
Sir, War is a costly business. Civil war in Angola, as it is usually considered to be even nastier. Mercenaries are volunteers and pre- sumably know the risks of their business. Why then is there such a fuss about the fate of British mer- cenaries in Angola?

Yours faithfully,
D. R. HARRIS,
37 Western Way,
Alverstoke,
Hampshire.
February 11.

From Mr D. W. Sanders
Sir, Should not the organization, training and enlistment of mercen- aries be made illegal? Surely a peaceful world needs respect for the rule of law, not only nationally but transnationally.

Yours faithfully,
D. W. SANDERS,
7 Rokehurst Avenue,
Harpenden,
Hertfordshire.
February 10.

From the Revd S. G. D. Parkinson
Sir, Small-time crooks have just come under fire from our Prime Minister for selling men to fight other people's wars. Is it not high time that the big-time crooks, trading in weapons of wholesale and indiscriminate destruction, came within his sights?

His answer, if it did not offend, the enterprise of our national export- drive in armaments. Which enter- prise I invite him, or anyone else, to deny is wholly reprehensible.

Yours sincerely,
SIMON PARKINSON,
St Mary's Vicarage,
Hornbury Tunnel,
Walsfield,
West Yorkshire.
February 10.

Play-tested toys
From Mrs Helen Cleverly
Sir, With fascinated dislike, I read in your columns that in addition to the sensible BSI safety require- ments, the Children's Research Unit now employ a team of independent psychologists to issue (or not) a "play-tested" seal of approval for toys.

Are parents considered so to have lost spontaneous instinct or com- mon sense that they can no longer choose a toy without an official stamp? And if this is so, have the unit gone far enough? Should not the children, rather than the toys, be play-tested to make sure that they have the correct sort of likes and dislikes? There would then, presumably, be children who would "fail" the unit's special tests and never reach the shops; such an economy might even offset the cost of what must surely be an expensive piece of solemn foolishness.

Yours, etc.
HELENA CLEVERLY,
Moat House,
Brockford, Stowmarket,
Suffolk.
February 11.

Fish farming economics
From Mr David Bartlett
Sir, In reply to the Chairman of the Highlands and Islands Development Board, Sir Andrew Gächter, on the subject of fish farming, I would like to clear up a few misleading points. Firstly, not all fish are carnivores; the carp is one example of an herbivorous fish which has been eaten and farmed by man for centuries, both in this country and others of a similar climate.

Secondly, cows and other sources of farmed animal protein, eat other foods beside grass—for example fish meal—roughly 40 per cent of which is imported into this country.

Thirdly, the conversion ratios (food in: body weight produced) of fish are far superior to other farmed animals, for example bullocks are at least 6:1.

Fourthly, the percentage of pro- tein in relation to the gross weight of fish is approximately 10 per cent, which compares with a figure approaching 3 per cent for cows.

Fifthly, and perhaps the most important point, the expense entailed by feeding fish, can be dramatically reduced by utilizing sewage effluent as the foodstuff; a principle dating back to antiquity, which is now re-emerging as a valuable and viable process, with the factors of cost availability and source at a premium.

I hope these five points may allay some of the doubts that may exist concerning the topic of fish farming.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID BARTLETT,
Department of Liberal Studies in Science,
The University,
Manchester,
February 10.

Communist parties in West Europe

From Mr Julian Amery, Conserva- tive MP for Brighton Pavilion
Sir, Your leading article (February 10) on West Europe's Communists, though very balanced, tends to the conclusion that the Italian, French and Spanish Communist parties may well have undergone a genuine change of heart which could make their participation in government acceptable.

Your argument, however, seems to omit a vital consideration. The danger to the West, as your article throughout implies, is not from Communism as such but from Soviet imperialism of which orthodox Marx-Leninism is only one of many instruments and in many ways less significant than the Red Army or the KGB.

Hitherto we have been protected against the Soviet danger by the western alliance with which Italy, France and Spain are all, in different ways, closely associated. Could we reasonably expect Com- munist parties taking part in Italian, French or Spanish governments to support the foreign and defence policies which the alliance requires? If not, and they opted for neutrality, how could we pre- vent them from later sliding into the Soviet camp by the will of their governments or, as with Finland, allying their main policies with those of the Soviet Union, because of the pressure of Soviet armed power in the Mediterranean as well as in central Europe? And could the West survive for long even with the Finlandization of the northern shore of the Mediterranean?

It is true that Communist China has shown a determination to resist Soviet imperialism and can even be considered objectively as an ally of the West. But then China has sufficient nuclear power to be inde- pendent. The French, Spanish and Italian Communist parties are still very far from adopting the Chinese position. Besides, of the three coun- tries concerned, only France has nuclear power, and, despite its as- suaring image, few people would be reassured by the prospect of Monsieur Marchais's finger being anywhere near the nuclear trigger.

Yours faithfully,
JULIAN AMERY,
112 Essex Square, SW1.

Liberal Party finances

From Mr Philip Watkins
Sir, Your contributor, Ronald Butt, is incorrect when he refers to the financial position of the Liberal Party in his article today (February 12).

He says the Rowntree Trust has cut back its annual grant from £25,000 to £10,000. The Trust has not made a grant of £25,000 towards the party's annual running expenses for many years. The correct figure recently was £7,500 in 1974 and £2,500 in 1975.

It is, of course, true that the Trustees made grants of £25,000 towards each of the two General Elec- tion Appeals in 1977. Your contrib- utor says this kind of donation will not recur. I have spoken to a Trustee today, and can say that Mr Butt has no authority whatever for his assertion.

Apart from its continuing sup- port for the Liberal Party Organi- zation, the Trust provides generous and greatly appreciated help for a wide variety of liberal activities throughout the country.

From preliminary figures I have for the 12 months ended December 1975, it looks as though the Liberal Party has broken even finan- cially, and, perhaps, has made a small surplus. This contrasts with substantial deficits reported by Conservative and Labour Parties, and indicates the fallacious basis on which much of the article was written.

Yours truly,
PHILIP WATKINS, Treasurer,
The Liberal Party Organization,
7 Exchange Court,
Strand, WC2.

Book on Rupert Murdoch

From Mr William Carr
Sir, I would like to add to the criticisms of Simon Regan's book on Rupert Murdoch.

So far as the *News of the World* takeover was concerned no great attempt appears to have been made to research what really happened, or to give a fair presentation of my family's part in the matter.

In my view little account was given to the fact that my father (I am Sir William Carr's son; Clive Carr is his nephew, not his son as stated in the book) fought the Maxwell bid while going through a series of operations similar to gravity to a heart transplant. Every- one who knew him was most impressed by the fortitude with which he tried to do what he then considered to be the best interests of the company and its employees.

Before writing the book Mr Regan did not interview any of my family, and this has inevitably re- sulted in a picture, incomplete and unbalanced, based often on one-sided information.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM CARR,
Cromford Manor,
Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire.

National Theatre tickets

From Mr E. H. Algar
Sir, If the new National Theatre facilities are as good as many of the other new theatre buildings in this country, it should be a pleasure to get there ahead of the performance time, unlike so many West End theatres which one delays visiting until the very last moment.

The new prices seem reasonable when compared with increased costs in every other sector of the economy. I was reminded just how reasonable they are when I told a Dutch colleague that the London Palladium was charging £1.50 to £7 for their current variety bill (Sir, Mr MacLaine and two other acts) and heard that the ticket prices in Holland for this same event later this month were to be £6 to £20.

Yours faithfully,
E. H. ALGAR,
North Heath Cottage,
North Heath,
Purborough, Sussex.

Threat to River Stour

From Mr Peter Ford
Sir, In the year in which the bi- centenary of John Constable's birth is being celebrated, it may seem extraordinary to levy that a Bill should be laid before Parliament that could potentially sound the death knell of the Essex and Sud- folk River Stour.

By a Private Bill the Anglian Water Authority is seeking sweep- ing powers over water resources in East Anglia. The implications for the River Stour are far reaching. Should the Bill go through, indeed, the authority will have the right to draft by-laws without consultation with local interests. Since these by- laws will be made by order of the Minister of State, there will be no right of appeal. The Bill parries the way for the authority to annul the his- toric rights of navigation that have existed on the river since 1705.

In the heyday of the navigation of Concession's work, the river was literally the main artery of trade in the Stour Valley from Sudbury to the sea. It has probably carried

boats of one sort or another since time immemorial. No one disputes the need for by-laws today to con- trol the rights of various interests in the valley's future recreational value, and there have inevitably been areas of disagreement between fishermen, naturalists and conserva- tionists, and boat users.

However, the form of legislation as presently proposed seems both valueless and arrogant. It will effectively remove from those who live and work in the valley the right to any say in the use and administration in what is, after all, their river. The rules are to be imposed by a remote, centralized and over-proud authority that will make no mistake about it see the river primarily as a water-duct to feed the pumping stations.

The Bill in its present intolerable form should be rigorously opposed by all those who care about such matters.

Yours faithfully,
PETER FORD,
Anole House,
High Street,
Bures St Mary,
Suffolk.
February 6.

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

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Board fears 'serious consequences' of NUM plan to stop overtime

that even with an injection of more money the colliery's reserves of 2.5 million tons of coal would be exhausted within five years.

Speaking after the executive meeting, Mr Gormley said: "There is no question that it is possible to implement an overtime ban but it will cause bloody chaos. The question is whether it is advisable at this time."

He said that a certain amount of overtime was necessary to keep the industry on an even keel.

Mr Gormley added: "I was surprised by the vote, I must admit. Referring to the recommendation of the union's own engineer that Langwith was viable he said: 'I don't know why we engage people if we don't take their advice'."

Of the executive's decision to be said: "I am led to the opinion that it became a political decision. There seems to be no other reason."

Later in a BBC radio interview Mr Gormley said: "I am browned off and disgusted. I think it is a fiasco."

"In fact, the vice-president, Mick McGahy, said to the committee in his opinion he did not think that we could carry a national overtime ban among the members."

Mr Arthur Gargill, Yorkshire miners' president, said at Barns-

ley that the ban reflected the growing anxiety of the union at the state of the industry, and in particular the amount of coal stocks and the threat of closure of a number of pits in a number of areas.

"This union will never again tolerate a closure programme as there was in the 1960s which destroyed half our industry," he said. "We will defend our members, their jobs and all other interests in every possible way."

"A pit which makes £500,000 a year profit as in the case of Langwith colliery, deserves to have development as proposed by our union. It is a reasonable request and should be adopted."

Some of the left-wing members of the NUM executive fear that the NCB may use the argument of economic unviability to seek the closure of other pits and that the union may be conceding a precedent if it gives in over Langwith.

The NCB says that the colliery has lost £1.8m over the last five years and points out that the 900 men affected by the plan could all be accommodated at nearby "long life" collieries.

The union counters that Langwith is heading for a £500,000 profit. Members who voted for the ban took the view that local job availability was of paramount importance.

Algeria-Iraq rift blocks resumption of Opec talks

By Roger Vielvo

Algeria has vetoed a new attempt to reconvene a full ministerial meeting of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries and brought the long-standing wrangle with rival oil producer Iraq into the open.

Iraq had asked for a special meeting to settle the outstanding and tangled question of price differentials, but Algeria has now told the Opec secretariat it will not take part until Iraq makes a 10 cents a barrel reduction in some prices.

The dispute between Algeria and Iraq has been simmering ever since the last meeting of Opec in December was broken up by a terrorist attack on its Vienna headquarters. Ministers have been discussing a formula for establishing the relative value of crude oils produced by the various member countries, but failed to reach a final decision before the siege of their offices was launched.

Differentials are often just a few cents a barrel up or down on the generally agreed Opec price for crude, but the oil exporting business those countries with differentials thought to be high have tended to lose business to producers whose crude is a few cents cheaper.

Algeria was one of three countries which declined to attend a special meeting of Opec in Abu Dhabi at the beginning of this month, and according to Opec sources, it may now prove impossible to reconvene a special meeting before the next gathering in May.

At the root of this dispute was Iraq's decision to cut its prices to avert a slump in production. While most of the big producers in the Middle East and North Africa suffered falls in crude oil output of up to nearly 20 per cent in 1975, Iraq actually increased production by 20 per cent.

Algeria has been particularly annoyed since some of the cut-price Iraqi crude has found its way into traditional Algerian markets, such as France.

TUC joy, CBI relief at Healey deal

Immediate reaction from the Trades Union Congress to the £220m measures to check unemployment, announced by Mr Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, yesterday was extremely favourable.

"We can give an unqualified welcome to the initiatives he is taking in the fields of training, stockpiling, housing, and modernising and restructuring industry", a statement said.

"Full marks also to the Chancellor and the Employment Secretary for providing in full and speedily the cash to finance the job creation and training projects put up by the Manpower Services Commission", it added.

But Healey's announcement had resisted demands for full-blooded inflationary moves was largely responsible for businessmen generally giving the new measures a muted welcome.

A spokesman for the Confederation of British Industry said: "These are helpful measures. We may differ on certain details but the measures are generally acceptable."

At a special meeting of the confederation held virtually no effect on after-hours trading in the stock market, and brokers were generally indifferent.

Since then, the Government has introduced schemes for clothing—with £20m being provided—and ferrous foundries, where the Department of Industry is providing £25m to increase investment in the sector, important to many other sectors of British industry.

The Government is now planning to increase the ferrous foundry aid scheme by about £15m on the basis of the response by companies which have already taken up the bulk of the original £25m while a further £20m of the £55m is being allocated for new assistance scheme for the non-ferrous foundries.

This is important for engineering too in view of the considerable volume of non-ferrous metals used in it. The scheme is expected to include areas such as aluminium castings.

Finally between £18m and £20m looks like being used to promote a new Section 8 scheme for printing machinery. It was being stressed in Whitehall last night that final decisions on the disbursement of these funds have still to be taken but the prospect of funding for printing machinery is of great interest to national newspapers.

Newspapers are seeking to implement fundamental changes in production techniques by employing a whole range of new technologies. It is known that in recent months informal discussions have been taking place between representatives of the newspapers and the Department of Industry about the plans to switch to greater use of computer linked machinery in newspaper production.

The funds could of course also be directed to machinery generally.

Some of the 24,000 workers already benefiting from the scheme would otherwise shortly have ceased to be covered.

The job creation programme, for which the Manpower Services Commission has already received £40m in grants, would have been tapered off by next autumn without yesterday's extra injection of cash. The extra £30m is expected to create some 20,000 to 25,000 more temporary jobs—typically short-term work organized on a local basis or jobs with a social value like helping the elderly.

It is seen as likely to be of particular help to youngsters leaving school next summer.

Of the additional £55m going to the commission for extra training places, some £45m will be for first year apprenticeship training. Grants will be paid to employers taking on extra apprentices.

The rest of the new money will be for second year apprentices still without jobs and for some other training measures like non-craft schemes.

assist manufacturing industry as a whole.

Mr Tony Galliers Pratt, president of the Machine Tool Trades Association, said yesterday: "What we are looking for is not a special aid for the machine tool industry. We need a counter-cyclical policy for our customers; a climate of investment policy that would prevent machine tool makers from being suddenly faced with a severe downturn in orders followed by a strong upsurge."

Since the last downturn, in 1971-72, the machine tool industry has undergone some major changes in terms of marketing and the range of machines produced, but many companies have had to rely on exports to stay in business.

Many manufacturers have complained that a counter-cyclical scheme will not assist them as they produce machines in individual specifications and cannot stockpile without firm orders. Others have warned of the danger of producing machines that, in a technologically advanced and highly competitive industry, may become out of date if left in a stockpile.

Machine tool stockpile hopes

Herbert, the state-owned machine tool group, could be given the task of putting into operation the machine tool stockpile whose formation is under discussion between the industry and the National Enterprise Board.

Lord Ryder, the NEB chairman, who personally advocated the establishment of a stock of machine tools in readiness for the upturn in manufacturing investment, is to discuss with industry leaders how the scheme will be financed. The NEB said last night that it will be pursued "as a matter of urgency".

Herbert, the one-time giant of the British machine tool industry and now being preserved with £25m of state aid, could be used by the NEB as a clearing house for the new stockpile. The aim would be to provide additional work for the country's badly under-utilized machine tool factories in preparation for the upturn in industrial investment.

The proposed stockpile is certain to be seen by the machine tool industry as an ad hoc measure to ease manufacturers' problems over the coming six to eight months before orders for new machinery return to more healthy levels.

What is still needed, the machine tool makers say, is a long-term scheme designed to

Construction disappointed

Construction organizations were bitterly disappointed by the £50m of help for the industry announced by the Chancellor. At present the total registered jobs in construction is around 200,000 and steadily growing.

A spokesman for the National Federation of Building Trades Employers said the industry was in the midst of its most acute demand and unemployment crisis since the 1930s.

"Any help which is given to ameliorate this, one must be thankful for", he added. "That said, this appears to be a very minor contribution."

Mr Reg Williams, director of the National Federation of Builders' and Plumbers' Mechanics, described himself as "disappointed but understanding."

He added: "My only comment would be that anything is better than nothing at all. It is bound to be of some help, but regrettably not very much."

The Federation was, however, aware of the constraints involved. To have done more might well have been inflationary.

Short-term jobs: Handful of seed, page 19

Central banks forced to support franc again

By Melvyn Westlake

Central banks were again forced to come to the rescue of the franc yesterday as the European exchange rate parties.

However, speculative pressure was a little less than yesterday, and the outcome of the regular six-monthly bilateral meeting between the West German Chancellor, Helmut Schmidt, and M. Giscard d'Estaing, the French President.

Although monetary questions were not on the official agenda, it was widely assumed the two leaders would give urgent attention to the question of avoiding a break-up of the European joint float, threatened by heavy capital flows out of the franc and into the Deutsche mark.

The Bank of France appears to have been obliged to sell up to £123m and about DM67m in an attempt to prop up the franc while the West German Federal Bank bought about \$36.5m and 80m francs at the Frankfurt "fixing" in an effort to limit the rise in the mark.

Swelling again suffered in the aftermath of its activity. Its "floating" devaluation rate against ten key currencies (from the June, 1972 base) widened to 30.6 per cent during the early part of the day, its worst level yet.

But it improved later, to close unchanged on the day at 30.5 per cent. It also fell 35 points against the dollar, at \$2.0260.

Another factor tending to dampen activity on the exchange yesterday was the closure of the New York market for the approaching weekend of Lincoln's birthday.

French monetary officials appear to be hoping that the

speculative storm will gradually subside when the market recognises the authorities' determination to withstand the pressure.

However, many market operators are now convinced that the French franc's present relationship with the mark will become increasingly unsustainable and that there will be steadily more intensive pressure, in coming months.

Richard Wieg writes in Paris: In spite of central bank intervention, speculation continued yesterday on French markets in favour of the Deutsche mark. It reached 176.50 francs to DM100, against 175.30 francs at the close of the markets on Tuesday.

In the triangular operations on Tuesday between the Bank of France, the West German Federal Bank and the New York Federal Reserve Bank a massive intervention equivalent to between \$500m and \$700m was mobilized, it was estimated.

While the French government invokes the good faith of last November's Rambouillet agreement under which concerted steps were to be taken by the central banks to limit fluctuations between European "snake" currencies, the dollar, and the yen, French financial and business circles obviously remained sceptical.

The French President declared when he met Chancellor Schmidt for one of the regular summits outside Nice yesterday that the question of the franc and the mark would not be discussed.

But speculators pursued their operations, evidently biding their time for the approaching weekend might offer a suitable moment for important decisions, in spite of official denials.

£152m Poland loan backed

The Export Credits Guarantee Department has agreed to give its backing to a financing package worth up to £152m, the biggest it has ever been involved with.

Loans up to a total of £152m will be made by the Bank of England to the Polish Government. The funds will ultimately be used to help finance a PVC manufacturing works at Wloclawek, north-west of Warsaw.

It is the biggest loan ever made by the Export Credits Guarantee Department to a European borrower.

The contract has been awarded to Petrocarbon Developments, a subsidiary of Burmah Oil.

A further part of the package is a \$100m (nearly £50m) Eurocurrency financing, which is being arranged by a group of banks led by the Bank of London.

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output stabilized five years ago

activity is already under way. The modest rise in output in the fourth quarter is at roughly the same as the normal rate of increase in industry's productive capacity—about 3 to 4 per cent a year. It is not clear, therefore, that it will significantly affect the unemployment total.

A lag between output and employment movements is, usually observed, and if output were now only rapidly to expand it would affect unemployment only in early 1977.

The weakness of demand has affected all manufacturing sectors apart from the chemical industry, which has shown a sharp rise in output recently.

Output in engineering, by far the most important single sector, continues to fall.

Mining and quarrying showed a useful 5 per cent rise in output in the fourth quarter over the third.

Gas, electricity and water production also picked up quite vigorously between the quarters, by 6.6 per cent.

The CSO points out that the use of series which measure deliveries rather than production distorted the measurement

INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT

The following are the index numbers of industrial production in December, seasonally adjusted, released by the Central Statistical Office yesterday (1970=100):

	All Industries	Total
1973 Q1	109.9	109.9
Q2	109.8	110.0
Q3	110.7	111.5
Q4	109.5	110.5
1974 Q1	104.4	106.5
Q2	107.9	108.4
Q3	103.3	105.7
Q4	104.8	108.7
1975 Q1	104.8	106.1
Q2	100.2	100.4
Q3	100.0	100.1
Q4	101.2	100.7
December 1975	103.0	104.1
January	105.3	107.7
February	105.2	106.9
March	105.6	108.8
April	101.6	101.7
May	99.4	99.4
June	99.7	100.0
July	100.6	100.9
August	98.8	98.9
September	100.5	100.5
October	101.5	101.2
November	101.5	101.1
December	100.6	99.8

of production throughout last year. Provisional evidence suggests there may have been some overstatement in the fourth quarter.

Bid approach spurned by Morgan Grampian

By Desmond Outley

Directors of Morgan Grampian, the publishing group, yesterday rejected a request for discussions over a possible £7.18m takeover bid from a private Dutch company, Communica-Europe.

The Dutch group said the proposed terms of the possible takeover of the United States, and the chief shareholders in Communica, holding about two-thirds of the equity, are News International, the vehicle of Mr Rupert Murdoch, Gannett Inc. of the United States, and AISC, an affiliate of the Brazilian publishing firm Editora de Guss.

Morgan Grampian's shares closed 2p up at 66p yesterday, having risen from 60p since the beginning of the week.

Mr Graham Sherman, Morgan Grampian's chief executive and holder of 20 per cent of the equity, said yesterday that all the board had known about the proposed offer was from a letter which arrived at 5 p.m. on Wednesday. A board meeting had been held yesterday when it was decided that "we did not wish to enter into discussions on the basis of the letter."

Mr Sherman said Mr Giffen, another director, between them held just over 40 per cent of Morgan Grampian's shares. Holders of more than 50 per cent of the shares were against bolding discussions with Communica, Mr Sherman said. The proposed offer was derisory, he declared.

Morgan Grampian, which publishes professional and business magazines, made a pre-tax profit of £312,000 in the six months to the end of September after carrying a loss of £117,000 from its United States operations.

Last night a spokesman for Morgan Grampian, which is advising Communica, said it seemed "short sighted" that the Morgan Grampian board had refused to discuss the matter, and he disputed Mr Sherman's claim that holders of more than 50 per cent of the equity were against the proposals.

Slater launches plan to merge its unit trusts

By Our Financial Staff

What will be the first of a series of merger proposals for the Slater, Walker Securities group £200m unit trust management side was announced yesterday. The Income and High Income Trust funds are seeking unitholders' approval for a merger into a £10.5m fund.

Mr Brian Banks, managing director of Slater, Walker Trust Management said the group planned to reduce its current complement of 44 separate unit trusts into just 21 by the end of the year.

Nine trusts would remain independent and the rest would be grouped by investment objective. Slater, Walker has bought two large fund managers, in addition to its original division, over the past few years.

The mergers will rationalize the various funds of the National Group of Unit Trusts and the Jessel unit trusts. The plan of existing Slater trusts with remarkably similar objectives is thought undesirable from the promotional and unit holders' point of view.

Mr Banks said yesterday that merging would make it easier to market the funds of the Slater group, and that it would be a more efficient use of stock more efficiently. Meetings of unit holders will be held next month.

In the case of the income fund may be necessary because of the strict requirement that holders of half the units must attend to make a quorum. Thereafter this rule is relaxed.

Rolls-NEB talks progress

By Our Financial Staff

Heads of the National Enterprise Board and Rolls-Royce yesterday held further talks over the proposed takeover of the aero-engine maker by the NEB.

The NEB and Rolls-Royce said afterwards that discussions had reached an advanced stage. "Subject to certain clarifications, it is hoped proposals can be submitted to the respective boards in the near future", it was said.

The Rolls-Royce board wants to retain total control over the company, without interference from the NEB, the body which will be in charge of the government's 100 per cent equity in the aero-engine makers.

How the markets moved

The Times Index: 165.10 -0.34
The FT Index: 400.0 -0.3

Rises		Falls	
Ayer. Bitum	10p to 182p	Securitor	4p to 60p
RK of NSW	10p to 63p	Smith & Tidman	2p to 25p
Reading Prop	10p to 146p	Stm Midland	7p to 125p
British Sugar	10p to 35p	Tanjong Tin	3p to 48p
BSL Ltd	5p to 119p	UK Props	1p to 163p
Geveer Tin	5p to 170p	Wellcom	1p to 33p
Indocape	5p to 400p	Witter T	6p to 28p
Allen H & Ross	10p to 450p	Montecatini E	5p to 60p
Prop Inv & Fin	2p to 35p	Prop Inv & Fin	2p to 35p
De Beers Ind	10p to 53p	Rand Prop Mine	5p to 17p
Dunelm	5p to 150p	Sunley E	5p to 140p
Fogarty E	4p to 76p	S & U Stores	1p to 14p
GRN	4p to 236p	UC Invest	10p to 125p
MTD (Mangula)	5p to 85p	Union Corp	13p to 35p

Equities had a quieter session. Light-edged securities were easier ahead of the trade figures.

Sterling was 35p down at \$2.0260. The "effective devaluation" rate was 30.5 per cent.

Gold rose 75 cents an ounce to \$131.50.

SDR-5 was 1.17216 on Thursday while SDR-2 was 0.57811.

Commodities: Rubber's index was at 1219.3 (previous 1217.5).

Reports, pages 21 and 22

THE POUND

Bank	Bank
Australia \$	2.11
Austria Sch	1.66
Belgium Fr	36.00
Canada \$	84.00
Denmark Kr	2.06
Finland Mk	12.70
France Fr	7.95
Germany Dm	2.36
Greece Dr	5.25
Italy Lira	80.00
Netherlands Gld	10.35
Norway Kr	170.05
Portugal Esc	165.00
Spain Pes	63.00
Sweden Kr	5.30
Switzerland Fr	11.40
Taiwan \$	11.05
Thailand Baht	69.00
US \$	2.07
Yugoslavia Dnr	136.50
	9.05
	8.75
	5.30
	2.06
	37.06

Rates for small denominated bank notes only. Exchange rates for Sterling are quoted in pence. Sterling is quoted in pence. Sterling is quoted in pence.

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Dealers worried by Leyland scheme to reorganize outlets

By Clifford Webb

Proposals for reorganizing Leyland Cars' retail outlets in Britain are causing widespread concern among the company's 3,000 franchise holders.

They include the replacement of the present two-tier distributor-dealer setup by a single-level dealer system selling Austin, Morris and Rover-Triumph cars.

Selected dealers will also be offered additional franchises covering Jaguar, Daimler, MG and Triumph sports cars and/or light commercials, car-derived vans, Land-Rovers and Range Rovers.

Smaller dealers—and particularly those at present holding only one franchise—are worried by the proposals for comprehensive franchises. They believe that these can only be put into effect by widespread closures of their type of business to provide remaining dealers with the much larger annual throughput of new cars, which will be necessary to justify the increased capital investment required.

But Mr Keith Hopkins, Leyland Cars' director of sales and marketing, has described these fears as "understandable but completely groundless".

"There is ample scope for the large group, the family-owned concern and the small

man. Clearly there will be some terminations in the long term but anybody who performs well, even in a small way, has a future with Leyland Cars. We are not proceeding on the basis of a doctrinaire blueprint. We are ready to negotiate and talk with all our dealers."

He was determined not to present the competition—and if just don't mean the importers—with additional dealers. "If a dealer only sells 50 cars and sells them in the right place I am not going to take away his franchise. That would be giving the competition another 50 cars."

Leyland Cars' biggest asset is its dealer network, by far the largest in the country. "We are only now appreciating how much muscle this has given us in the market place. Only a fool would throw that away to do a nice clean job."

Nevertheless it was obvious that the present complicated and wasteful set-up could not continue in its present form. The new proposals include a substantial concession to the larger groups. The rigid insistence that dealers should not handle competitive makes is being relaxed.

The proposals are outlined in a letter to all distributors and dealers by Mr Bernard Bates, director of franchise, development and planning.

Useful America order for Norton motor cycles

Norton Villiers, the Wolverhampton-based motor cycle plant which is officially in liquidation, has won an order for 7,000 motor cycles from the United States. The plant was put into liquidation seven months ago and the 800 workers have been sitting-in at the factory to try to save their jobs.

The order comes from Mr Joe Berliner, head of the Berliner Corporation, the giant American vehicle dealers. It guarantees a sale of the production output from the Wolverhampton factory for the first year once it restarts manufacturing.

Mr Ronald Titcombe, the Australian oilman who heads a consortium which has put in a bid for the plant, brought the order back to the United Kingdom.

Mr Titcombe and Mr Berliner have agreed to the deal in principle, which gives the 800 workers a tremendous boost. The deal also has a six months' warranty which guarantees the spare parts.

Mr Berliner is visiting the Wolverhampton plant next Thursday to have a look round, while talks are expected to take place concerning the American company's financial involvement in the plant.

Engineering pay claim unlikely before April

By R. W. Shakespeare

Northern Industrial Correspondent

Union leaders representing some 2,500,000 engineering workers appear to have abandoned any hope of negotiating a new national pay deal with the industry's employers before the existing agreement runs out at the end of April.

Indeed, depending on the way the second stage of the Government's wages strategy emerges, the unions could be in difficulty about launching any new industry-wide pay demands until well into next year.

With the present national pay agreement, covering workers in more than 5,000 firms, due to end within two months the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions—which negotiates on behalf of all 19 engineering unions—would by now have submitted its new shopping list of demands to the Engineering Employers Federation before entering a round of tough bargaining.

But when the confederation executive met in York yesterday pay was not even on the

agenda.

The dilemma facing the unions arises from the present complex system of two-tier wage bargaining and the fact that national wage negotiations have been taken over by the Government/TUC counter-inflation strategy and all unions have decided to support the £5 pay limit.

The last national wages deal in engineering was concluded before the pay code came into force. Its effect has been to raise basic rates up and down the industry by £10 a week, with two increases each of £4 in May and November last year and another £2 due this month. But in practice these basic pay increases have had no effect on most workers because they were already earning more than the new minimum. In most companies actual earnings are determined in plant-level negotiations and this process has continued.

The effect of this has been that the vast majority of engineering workers have received the maximum £5 and, under the terms of the Pay Code, are deterred from having any more

Humberside jobs to go in shipyard closure

By Peter Hill

Nearly 300 ship repair workers employed on Humberside face redundancy as a result of British United Travelers' decision to close down one of its subsidiary companies.

Humberside Ship Repair Engineering Co is closing because of the sharp decline in the number of vessels operating from Hull. The closure will make 276 redundant.

The company is one of three ship repair subsidiaries of BUI and was originally scheduled to be nationalized.

It was on the list of companies in the original consultative document published by Mr Benn when Secretary of State for Industry, but was later removed.

The Government decided to change the basis for public ownership qualification to turnover in the financial year to the end of July, 1974. There had been no inclusion in any event to the inclusion of the BUI ship repair interests, since, it was argued, they could not be considered as commercial ship repairers in the same way as all the other candidates for state ownership.

Aero export record

The British aircraft industry exported a record £20m worth of goods during 1975—a rise of 25 per cent on the previous year—according to figures issued by the Society of British Aerospace Companies.

Spreckley rescue

Courtesy, Pope (Holdings) has acquired the business of the specialist contracting group Spreckley Sage from the receiver. The company said yesterday that it had offered to reemploy the 500 employees in Harrogate, London, made redundant earlier this month.

Cigarette slump

First official confirmation that higher prices and health risk warnings have forced down cigarette sales is contained in figures issued by the Tobacco Advisory Committee yesterday. These show that cigarette sales fell by 3 per cent in volume last year compared with 1974—from 137,000 million to 132,600 million.

£15m opencast order

Taylor Woodrow Construction has been awarded a contract worth more than £15m by the National Coal Board opencast executive at Treacry opencast coal site, Pantywan, Dowlais, in mid-Glamorgan, it includes the extraction of about a million tons of coal.

Watch on 'lump'

A new board has been set up to advise the Secretary of State for the Environment on the effect of government measures designed to tackle the abuses of the "lump" in building. Sir William Harris, a consulting engineer and former director-general of Highways at the department, will chair the board.

Innocenti union leaders outline rescue plan

From John Earle

Rome, Feb 12

The factory works council of the Innocenti plant in Milan today heard trade union leaders outline a plan by Signor Mario Donat Cattin, the Italian Industry Minister, to rescue the former subsidiary of British Leyland, put into liquidation in November.

It envisages the establishment of a company between Fiat-Accord, the industrialist, Signor Alessandro de Tommaso, the state finance corporation GEPI and (with a minority shareholding) British Leyland.

This would involve assembly of 40,000 units for three years, during which the plant would convert to production of motor cycles and light vans.

Details of the agreement have however still to be worked out between the three prospective owners, but it is hoped this can be done by next week.

The 4,500 workers have been staging a sit-in since late November. A successful rescue operation would help defuse a potentially explosive situation.

DataSTREAM rents to go up sharply in restructure plan

By Our Financial Staff

Leading stockbroker Moore & Co. Govett are to move a further stage down the road towards the ultimate divestment of DataSTREAM, its computerized financial services operation.

With the consent of the Stock Exchange, the group will shortly reform itself into two companies. The existing parent company, Moore & Co. Govett is to be liquidated and replaced by a new company, Moore Govett, which, as a limited corporate member of the Stock Exchange, will take over the firm's entire stockbroking business, including the investment research department and the Hongkong and moneybroking subsidiaries.

The DataSTREAM subsidiaries, responsible for the financing system and for the associated statistical, valuation and econometric printed services, will be transferred to a new holding company, DataSTREAM.

As a result rental charges will go up appreciably to around £100,000 a year, according to Moore Govett, with "a broad measure of acceptance".

and DataSTREAM will initially remain in economic ownership of the parent company, to divest themselves of control of DataSTREAM.

One of the main requirements of the new structure and the proposed sale of control of DataSTREAM will be a readjustment in the way in which DataSTREAM is financed.

Although DataSTREAM has been changing rental for its computer terminal and several years a large part of its income has come through the commission generated in the broking business.

Once the new structure comes into existence, the emphasis will have to be changed, with terminal rental providing the bulk of income.

As a result rental charges will go up appreciably to around £100,000 a year, according to Moore Govett, with "a broad measure of acceptance".

EEC opens talks on Lisbon trade pact

From Michael Horvath

Brussels, Feb 12

After some embarrassing delays the EEC will begin negotiations with Portugal tomorrow on a politically important new trade agreement.

Together with the £90m of emergency financial aid pledged last year, the proposed accord is intended to demonstrate the Community's much-proclaimed determination to help Lisbon along the road to "pluralistic democracy".

The negotiations were supposed to have started before the end of last year, but were delayed largely owing to the reluctance of Britain, France and West Germany to grant

concessions proposed by the European Commission. It was only last month that EEC foreign ministers were finally able to agree on the Commission's negotiating mandate.

This offers the Portuguese higher export ceilings for their textiles and better access for wine and horticultural products. It also provides for industrial and technological cooperation and the extension of social security benefits to Portuguese migrant workers.

In addition the Community is committed to discuss long-term financial aid, the amount, duration and terms of which are to be determined during the course of negotiation.

January steel output down 13 pc on year

By Our Industrial Correspondent

Output last month by private steel producers in the United Kingdom was down 13 per cent compared with January, 1975.

But official figures issued last night showed that steel consumption in the final three months of last year was running at higher levels than in the previous two quarters. This reinforces the growing feeling that the recession may have reached its lowest point.

According to the latest monthly figures issued jointly by the BSC and the British Independent Steel Producers' Association, production last month averaged 352,000 tonnes.

BSC to pay £900,000 for stockholders

By Peter Hill

Further extension of its interests in the steel stockholding business were disclosed last night by the British Steel Corporation. It announced that it was taking over a Yorkshire-based stockholding company specialising in the general steel sector.

BSC is to pay about £900,000 for Wilson Steel Services, of Cleckheaton, stockholders of plate, light and heavy rolled sections and hot rolled bars. The takeover price will depend on stocks.

The company, which has an annual turnover of about £5m, will become a division of British Steel Service Centres group, formed last year to bring together and strengthen the BSC's stockholding and reinforcement interests.

CEGB cuts night rate to regional boards

By Roger Vickroy

Energy Correspondent

As the electricity supply boards in England and Wales formally applied to the Price Commission yesterday for an 11 per cent increase in tariffs, hard-pressed users of off-peak electricity got their first glimmer of hope since prices doubled over the past two years.

People who heat their homes by night storage heaters could benefit from a fall in the wholesale cost of night-time electricity. Changes in the wholesale price at which the 12 regional boards buy from the power stations give the industry the opportunity to stem the move away from electricity for home heating.

The wholesale night-time price is contained in the Central Electricity Generating Board's bulk supply tariff published yesterday. The night rate is reduced from 0.58p per kWh, but at the same time the peak rate is increased from 1.60p to 1.81p per kWh.

Mr Fred Bonner, deputy chairman of the CEGB, explained that since the wholesale price was fixed last year, fuel costs had risen substantially. Because the fuel adjustment clause, now contained in all domestic bills, added the same amount to the cost of each unit of electricity sold, the real price of electricity had risen.

However, there is no guarantee that night-rate reductions will be reflected in the charges paid by domestic consumers. The off-peak rates offered by the supply boards sometimes come into operation several hours before cheap power is available from the power stations.

Pricing is made even more complex by the fact that the CEGB has an average day-time rate as well as night-time and peak rates, and there has to be a certain amount of averaging. There is no provision in any of the domestic tariffs to pass on the increased cost of burning electricity at peak hours.

by Kenneth Owen

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Small firms' worker relations

From Mr E. G. Wood

Sir, The question posed by Mr J. W. Dodd (February 4) about the optimum size of firms is not easy to answer though, based on over 20 years' experience of working with many firms both large and small in a variety of industries, I would support the view put forward by Mr J. F. Ellis (February 10) that small firms have better industrial relations.

However, opinions based on experience carry no weight in some circles so let me add that there is considerable evidence from research including such authorities as Professor R. W. Revans. This does not mean that small firms are perfect and, indeed, the Commission on Industrial Relations recommended more training in small firms while confirming that relations were better in small firms than in large organizations.

The figures of 30 years ago, quoted by Mr Ellis, are as quoted by I. Fall to understand how Industry (formerly the Board of

Trade Journal) but they do appear in the *Business Monitor* PA Series based on the new annual Census of Production. I started to analyse these figures about three years ago and found that in some industries the net output per head is highest in small and medium sized units whereas in other industries the big units are best.

However, figures can lie. For instance, in the cutlery industry the large units are now blade manufacturers using much more capital per employee than the traditional cutlery trades. It is true that, taking industry as a whole, large establishments produce more per head than small units, but this is because many of the small units are in labour intensive industries: in fact, many small units produce more per head than large ones.

This led me to study the data for the clothing industry where the product does not vary much with the size of firm. I found that units with less than 200 employees produced virtually the same net output per head as the larger units where

capital expenditure per unit was higher. The small units carried lower stoppage higher wages and, however, in some sectors, turnover, share and output per head was in large units whereas in others the small units were more per head.

We started a similar of the engineering and industries, using a cost plan diagram of the ship between net output capital expenditure and productivity. Unfortunately, we had done this study owing to funds. If and when we feel that this kind of is worthwhile, we are delighted to try to answer an intriguing question posed by you.

Yours faithfully,
E. G. WOOD,
Director,
Centre for Innovation & Productivity,
Kelford House,
15 Fitzalan Square,
Sheffield S1 2BZ,
February 10.

Significance and value of Baltic Exchange

From Mr E. Vafiadis

Sir, May I suggest that Mr J. Hall starts doing something to pacify his state of trepidation (otherwise he will live in agony for a long time to come) because his letter (February 9) on the "abuse" of the Baltic Exchange is not going to alter the plans for improvement and expansion of the institution?

To suggest that "it is abused, more than used, by the majority of its members... is a total failure. I fail to understand how business can be lost by absenteeism from the office when the absentee broker, to the full knowledge of his principals and all brokers concerned, is regularly available, contactable and ready to do his duty for certain hours. Failure to establish contact with a broker in his office during Baltic hours is only natural; the operator can either transfer the call to the Exchange or pass the message immediately to the broker who, from the Baltic, will return the call.

Continental brokers do a lot of business and in their own right form a formidable competition for London (the difference in time is another matter). I do not believe that their business is enhanced in any appreciable way because the broker happened to be on the Baltic between 11 am and 3 pm.

All those connected with shipping know only too well that the significance and value of the service the Exchange offers. Standards of brokers in their pursuit of business will always vary and I am certain that eventually those who contribute to the covering of the overall standards, will sooner rather than later have to seek refuge far away from the Exchange. The expectations and demands of their principals will see to that. The Baltic in the meantime continues to earn its place as the world's centre of market information and activity.

Yours faithfully,
E. VAFIADIS,
20 Fitzbarrings House,
Portman Square, London W1.

fee room and bar voiced by Mr J. Hall. The Baltic has striven to improve its communication facilities over the years by installing a large internal telephone exchange and providing members with paging devices and my experience is that foreign brokers do not have much difficulty in contacting their brokers on the Baltic by phoning directly to the Exchange.

Mr Hall's allegations that the Baltic is just a place where brokers can go to avoid their duties may apply to a few people but surely this is a matter for their employers to rectify.

Mr Hall has raised two interesting points, namely whether the exchange should be removed to a new building and whether it still has a commercial function to perform.

I feel that all Baltic members have some degree of affection for the present fine Victorian building erected when most of the business transacted was controlled in the United Kingdom. Now our role is to attract business emanating from abroad and a modern building might give us the forward-looking image we lack at present.

So far as the Baltic's commercial function is concerned, the Greek shipowners are building their own "Baltic" in Piraeus so they must think it is worthwhile to have an Exchange. What is more, all the leading Greek owners have their own brokers in London who attend the Baltic every day as a matter of course. In fact, the Greeks seem to value the Baltic more than anyone as a place where one can glean the more confidential information necessary for running a successful shipping business.

If the Baltic were closed entirely, then London might well slip away from its present position of being an international shipping centre. The present building was erected nearly 80 years ago and its traditions go back well beyond that. These include the training of the young and unquestioning adherence to its motto "Our Word Our Bond".

Yours faithfully,
D. V. NOAKES,
Venerable Manor Road,
Godalming, Surrey GU7 2HZ.

From Mr D. V. Noakes

Sir, Members of the Baltic Exchange who, like myself, represent foreign shipowners, are well acquainted with the complaints of inefficiency and excessive patronage of the

by a diminution of bunkering surcharges, for instance.

It seems to me that we are adept at taking advantage of external factors to justify price increases and maintaining them beyond the demand of economic necessity. The steamship companies are not in the same league as the oil companies in this respect. I should like to be convinced that present freight rate levels are fair and equitable to the hard-pressed exporter.

Yours faithfully,
CECIL GYSSIN,
Gysin and Hanson Ltd,
Rotherhithe New Road,
London SE16 2BA,
February 9.

From Mr C. Gysin

Sir, The consternation among shipping companies at the "unfair" competition from the Soviet merchant fleet may be a little premature. Almost inevitably it is being taken as a challenge to the supremacy of capitalism, politically inspired and subsidized, whereas it may be nothing more than commercial competition which could be countered by adjustment of freight rates.

As a shipper to whom fractions are critical I should be interested to learn whether undercutting of a mere 10-15 per cent cannot be met. The fuel crisis has now receded but does not seem to be matched

January 1958 million of the Treasury (Peter Thorneycroft Powell and Nigel signed because they necessary to cut public by £50 million, balance the Budget. A necessary condition for the 1957/58 of £200 £379 million in 1958.

This month we see January 8 that a deficit on December £5,748.6 million he might be somewhat by the end of the year there have been not Yours, IAN ORR-ELWING, House of Lords, January 26.

From Lord Orr-Elwing

Sir, January is a month governments review and plan their future strategy.

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Technology

Fiat research aims at cutting fuel costs to the motorist

Careful driving techniques can cut petrol consumption—an established fact, but a difficult option in countries such as Italy, where the natural driving style is more accelerating, so to speak.

At a new research centre near Turin, Fiat is working on developments which, if successful, should make fuel economy less stressful for Italian motorists. And, indeed, they should result in a healthier balance sheet for the car company itself.

Energy research at Fiat has three main elements. First, the obvious aim to develop engines and vehicles which use less fuel. Secondly, as with most manufacturing companies, in study ways of using less energy in the manufacturing process.

Thirdly, to consider energy-related products as a new market area for the company, as part of its general attempt to diversify. This could take Fiat into solar energy, wind power and domestic heating, for example.

In reducing fuel consumption—while at the same time maintaining standards of low exhaust emissions—much can be done even with conventional petrol engines, through a more precise

control of the combustion process. This means electronic control, and in particular the use of an appropriately programmed microprocessor.

Using measurements of air mass flow, engine speed, and exhaust gas conditions as inputs to the microprocessor, the system enables the engine operation in effect to be continuously "tuned" to the required emission and fuel consumption.

Another line of research is aimed at matching the engine performance to the pattern of driving in urban conditions. For much of the time in urban driving the engine is operated inefficiently in terms of fuel consumption.

If a stepless variable transmission were to be used, it would be possible to obtain the best specific fuel consumption whatever the vehicle speed. A closely matched stepped transmission would be almost as good.

The driving would be "automated" to the extent that the driver's intentions, signalled via the accelerator pedal, would be interpreted by a microcomputer. Continuously comparing factors such as vehicle speed and engine speed, the micro-

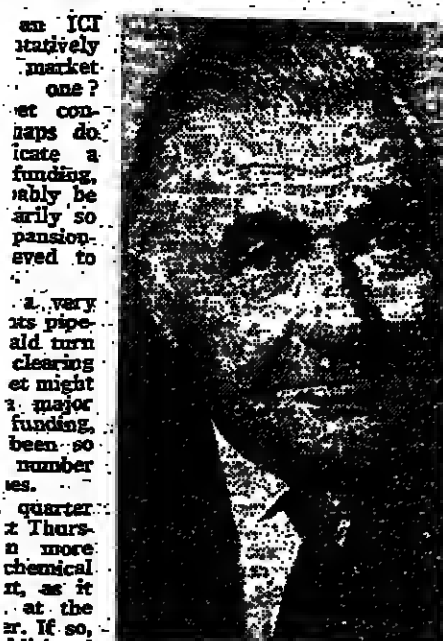
computer would control engine speed and throttle valve position to give best fuel economy at all times.

Fuel economy and reduced exhaust emissions can both be obtained in so-called stratified-chamber engines. Here the combustion chamber may be split into two parts, with a fuel-rich mixture used for ignition in one (the "pre-chamber") and a lean mixture for main combustion in the other (the main chamber).

Another type of stratified-chamber engine uses direct petrol injection in the pre-chamber. Fiat is working on both types, and good operation on extremely lean mixtures (air/fuel ratios up to 35) have been obtained.

THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Why ICI might need more capital



Mr. Rowland Wright, chairman of ICI: fourth quarter results next week.

an ICI might need more capital? The answer is yes, and the reasons are many. ICI's fourth quarter results, due next week, are expected to show a significant increase in sales, but a corresponding increase in capital requirements. The company's expansion into new markets, particularly in the chemical and pharmaceutical sectors, has led to a steady increase in its capital base. This is reflected in the company's recent share issues and its plans for further expansion. The financial editor notes that while ICI's performance has been strong, the company's capital requirements are also increasing, which could lead to a need for more capital in the near future.

Central bank's holding of four-month bills, which will be sold by the bank to the public, is a sign of the government's intention to increase its borrowing. The bank's holding of four-month bills is a key indicator of the government's financial position. The financial editor notes that the bank's holding of four-month bills is a sign of the government's intention to increase its borrowing, which could lead to a need for more capital in the near future.

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mechanical engineering industry looking in its latest short-term trends report, for no upturn in home orders until next winter, and for new orders generally to "bump along the bottom" of the cyclical trough for a while, companies will almost certainly have to cut production back this year or risk running out of work altogether.

How much damage this will do to market ratings is another matter, since most investors in the sector have been going in with an eye to the joys in store in 1977. Come spring and reports of poor performance in the second half of last year, enthusiasm could wane; it almost certainly will wane unless there is more cheerful news than we have seen so far over order intake. And this is particularly the case in that while manufacturing industry generally, on the CBI's argument, may still be in for liquidity problems on a revival of business, those of the engineers—whom the industry has long been dubbed "the cash flows"—will be running below capacity, will be worse off still. Moral: avoid the highly geared.

Electra Inv Tst Creating a new vehicle. Given that Electra Investment Trust's threatened loss of trust status for tax purposes called for a solution by early this year, the main question taxing the two parent companies, Globe and Cable Investment trusts, has been how best to tackle the problem of obtaining the listing for the shares now required by the Inland Revenue. Divestment of Electra's 50 per cent share in the rights issue to Globe and Cable shareholders was, apparently, the most favoured solution but ruled out by tax considerations. Hence today's offer for sale of just over a quarter of the equity—12.5m shares at 87p.

Those who recall the burning of fingers that went with the investment trust new issue stampede of 1972 might understandably be sceptical. But the point about Electra is that it is not a new trust being set up, but an established trust in which the parent companies are offering shares at a 25 per cent discount to the late January net asset value of 120p share.

The Manpower Services Commission got almost all that it wanted from the Chancellor yesterday, and can now continue to invite bidding under its highly controversial job creation programme. Without the £30m extra grant the scheme, launched in October, would by April have been winding down, thus missing the summer school-leavers.

The Government appears to believe it is better to keep people under 24 and over 50 in subsidised jobs, albeit temporarily, rather than force them to stay at home on state benefits. Besides which, the scheme is just starting to stimulate an interesting response after the initial flood of unimaginative applications for jobs like beach cleaning and land clearance.

The major criticism is that the scheme provides mainly basic, manual jobs which do not normally last more than six months and then delivers the workers to the unemployment list, sometimes for the first time. Given that it is only intended to provide temporary jobs, the scheme has been highly successful and popular. It has so far received 1,724 applications, accounting for £25m of the £30m the Chancellor gave it last year, which will provide nearly 20,000 jobs. When all that money has been allocated that figure will reach 30,000.

The commission allocated with astonishing speed much of the original £30m to the grants for job creation in October, which he said was to last 18 months. In December it was back for another £10m. It was delighted yesterday that it had received another £30m, but not surprised. It was what it asked for and it is accustomed to getting what it wants. An official said last night: "We need not worry so much now about running out of money, as we will be able to help the summer school-leavers. There is little

Short-term jobs and training to ease manpower problems

The Chancellor of the Exchequer's modest measures for stimulating industrial investment and alleviating some of the rise in unemployment are discussed in the light of the Government's strategy of preparing the ground for industrial revival

danger that we will be forced to limit the scheme again to development areas. Any worthwhile scheme anywhere in the country can be eligible for a grant. The extra money will create another 20,000 to 25,000 extra temporary jobs, most of them lasting about six months, but some for up to a year. The school-leaving problem this summer could be less serious because many who stayed at last year embarked on a two-year "A" level course. Many more youngsters will opt to stay on this year rather than risk joining the unemployment queue.

Last summer 200,000 of the 500,000 school-leavers got what are loosely termed "jobs with prospects". About 300,000 took the initiative and joined the commission with the tax of placing as many as possible of the 40,000 permanently unemployed school-leavers. At this moment, 9,000 of them are drawing wages, a number of the result of the job creation scheme. The Government is aware of the advantage of putting people in jobs, even subsidised and temporary jobs. It means they get an income tax return and so have a more stable state benefits. Mr. Healey said yesterday the net effect on the

industries, in line with promises given under the Government's new strategy for identifying specific sectors of manufacturing and putting taxpayer monies to promote reforms. The prototype of companies, which have been set up since 1973 some £18m has been deployed in loans, generating almost £83m of new investment, one quarter of which is said to be industrial building.

Such schemes are not in themselves likely to make an immediate impact on levels of company expenditure, but, each time the Chancellor comes forward with selective help for projects based on an industry-wide concept of planning for the future, the total help available mounts up. They are backed up, of course, by the selective financial assistance available under section 8 of the Companies Act, which allows companies to obtain individual basis. All this is good for the future, planning now for better times. But the Treasury has more pressing anxieties, and in spite of these the Chancellor has resisted the temptation to give more funds for the quite separate scheme for accelerating capital investment, announced in the last Budget and reinforced last month with £90m worth of cheap loans and interest relief.

public sector borrowing requirement of the extra £30m would be small. In fact, there could even be an exchequer "profit". Under the programme, the wage costs for projects providing short-term work of social value are met. Projects are organized by any local group anxious to help reduce unemployment and do a socially worthwhile job at the same time. Jobs must be labour intensive, preferably offering training or further education opportunities. Unfortunately, the latter qualification is not met often enough.

Mr. Healey's proposals to provide 30,000 to 35,000 extra training places in industry at a cost of £55m fall exactly in line with what the commission was requesting. The danger is that employers will hold back, hoping that, like last year, the grant will in stages become more generous. The commission was anxious to point out yesterday that the £55m is more generous than last year, despite a number of increments, and almost certainly will not be increased. So employers should not hang on, said an official.

The Government has been cautious to earmark £10m of the £55m for continuing the training of apprentices and others who lose their jobs because employers cannot afford to keep them on, despite the generous grants, or because they go bankrupt. It will enable the commission to induce other firms in take on the trainees and continue their education. Ministers are also considering how to make the best use of further education during the recession, if only in keeping unemployed school-leavers occupied. But they also see the advantage of having a reservoir of qualified young people ready and waiting for the anticipated upturn in the economy.

Mr. Denis Barnes, chairman of the commission, said last night: "Our measures are working because people are realizing that our approach is the right one, both for themselves and for the country. The commission has always been determined to ensure that as many people as possible acquire the skills that will enable them to take full advantage of the economic recovery when it comes. That will ensure that the nation has a pool of skilled people ready to produce the goods. And, of course, people with skills are much less likely to be unemployed."

He went on: "Since the war Britain's economy has dipped and risen in roughly four year cycles. In the past when the economy has expanded the nation has lacked the industrial skills to increase production, on which prosperity depends. That must be avoided in future."

Although the commission got virtually all it wanted it failed to secure £5m from the Chancellor for the Employment Service Agency, which last year included 52,000 disabled people. It wanted to speed up the modernization of the employment service, but Mr. Healey clearly was not convinced. The commission has ambitious ideas for reinforcing their front line staff in employment offices, accelerating the much-valued Jobcentre programme and nearly doubling the employment transfer scheme, which gives grants for people who move in their search for jobs. In all the commission had asked the Government for £90m, and it is delighted that it has got £85m. The Government dare do nothing but encourage it, the TUC is firmly for it, and the CBI can see advantages to its members flowing from it. The TUC said last night: "Full marks to the Chancellor and the Employment Secretary (Mr. Foot) for providing in full and speedily the cash to finance the job creation and training projects put up by the Manpower Services Commission. Today's package is evidence that the Government is tackling the nation's unemployment problem with the seriousness it warrants. Now for a Budget which will reinforce and extend the interim action."

With so much support all round the commission understandably feels optimistic about its prospects of getting yet more money if its new allocation goes as speedily as the rest has done.

Christopher Thomas Labour staff

A handful of seed to yield a harvest

While there is nothing dramatic about the Chancellor's latest tranche of public funds for promoting investment, and no-one last night had any idea of what the figure will be for machine tool stockpiling, they reflect the Treasury's determination that state aid must be provided on a selective basis.

The further £55m being deployed under section 8 of the Companies Act is unlikely to have any immediate impact on the short-term problem of accelerating the levels of capital spending.

It is intended to use these funds over the next few years for structural improvements in the printing machinery, and non-ferrous foundries industries, though some of the money will add to that for already announced scheme for improving the ferrous foundries industry. Selective section 8 schemes of aid are steadily being developed across a range of

industries, in line with promises given under the Government's new strategy for identifying specific sectors of manufacturing and putting taxpayer monies to promote reforms. The prototype of companies, which have been set up since 1973 some £18m has been deployed in loans, generating almost £83m of new investment, one quarter of which is said to be industrial building.

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ing capital investment, announced in the last Budget and reinforced last month with £90m worth of cheap loans and interest relief. If all the allocation is spent—and applications are still coming in—then about £600m worth of new investment will have been generated. The qualification is that projects must start by this September. Presumably the Chancellor is satisfied with progress even though last month only £20m of the Accelerated Projects Scheme had actually been taken up. It is known that applications for investment intentions to manufacturing suggested that capital spending by manufacturers, which fell about 13 per cent last year, could well drop another 5 to 8 per cent this year.

Mr. Healey says this is a short-sighted view. He wants industry to invest now and order capital goods and buildings when prices are cheaper and more readily available. Unfortunately, industry is cautious, preferring to wait for the Budget before re-doing their sums on capital commitments. Their mood has improved, but the Chancellor is worried about bottlenecks when they do finally unleash their demand for capital items and essential materials and goods. The Treasury has already stopped forward to encourage stockpiling by the steel industry (though little has been heard about the actual arrangements for stockpiling). Now it proposes to back the machine tool industry, though it all seems to depend on talks on how much and for what tools.

Lord Ryder, chairman of the National Machine Tool Builders' Association, who will be deeply involved with the Government in reconstructing Herbert and Kearney Trocar Marwin, is keen on the idea of building for stock. His state anxiety is not just a holding company, and it is looking for early ways of promoting

investment. Unless something is done now he foresees a scramble for tools in times of sustained economic recovery. It is no less vital in the campaign to avert future bottlenecks that the skills of the national labour force be kept reasonably intact. While not to themselves starting, the further assistance for jobs protection discussed above do enable companies to re-examine their thoughts about the future. The construction industry is hardly cock-a-hoop about the aid given yesterday, but every little does help, and it keeps the materials supply industry turning over its stocks of bricks whatever at a slightly improved rate.

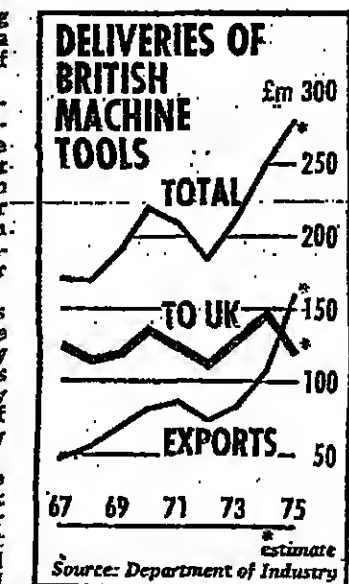
No doubt the builders will be pressing for more in the Budget on April 6, when the Chancellor is also due to spell out what will be one of the most crucial decisions on government spending and whether the corporate sector moves into substantial financial surplus this year. This will be his proposal for the continuation of relief on stocks (the deferring of tax liability on stock appreciation was worth about £1,300m to companies for the current financial year).

Given the Chancellor's pre-Budget assurance that some relief will continue, adding in the fact of the revival in stock market capital issues (half for manufacturers), and throwing all the investment schemes, including the Finance for Industry support, alongside Government aid, there seems to be reason for expecting an investment revival to be long delayed.

Of course, manufacturers have to have the confidence as well as the financial resources to stop up their spending—and, until the Budget and the future of the pay and counter-inflation strategy is spelled out clearly, no one can be certain of such an apparently obvious conclusion.

For his part the Chancellor is balancing the requirements of promoting short-term spending schemes already worked out but kept on the shelf, and rallying industry behind the sectoral planning implicit in the Chequers strategy for reforming the country's industrial base. It is a case for the moment of offering inducements as fast as the traffic will bear them in the conviction that the recession has touched bottom and it is also up to industrialists themselves to do their bit without further state carrots, and by higher spending breed more confidence among each other. Next week sees the Government's White Paper on public expenditure, which will show the kind of resources being deployed behind the state industries, whose influence on manufacturing activity and order books for capital items is enormous. All the expectations are that industry remains the top priority when expenditure is being contained in other areas of resource allocation.

The Chancellor seems set on the right course and industrialists should now back him with a determined review of future capital programmes, which will have a more dramatic impact on jobs than any of the measures for protecting employment included in yesterday's apparently modest package of measures.



Source: Department of Industry

Business Diary: Manila bound • Cassels in the air

Manila capital blum in national year—40 years to it in August 1976, was considered to be one of the more difficult jobs then available to a Whitehall civil servant, and before that he was secretary of a committee set up to smooth the way for the Dunlop-Pirelli merger.

In April Cassels says goodbye to retiring MSC chairman Sir Denis Barnes and hello to Dolra Morda's Richard O'Brien. The MSC was established two years ago to assume the Department of Employment's public employment and training services through the Employment and Training Services Agencies. It is quite a job to make these services better known to the public. Many people confuse MSC with Manpower Limited, a commercially run service group.

Switchboard operators at either concern are so used to explaining the difference to callers that they readily pass on the correct number. Wonder if it is significant that while the MSC operator knew the Manpower Limited number by heart, the Manpower operator had to look up the MSC number?

Timesiana One item in the new edition of Business Archives is Gordon Phillips's account of his charge, the archives of The Times, which stretch back to 1785. Phillips, who is on the lookout for Timesiana that may be in the hands of readers of the journal unknown to him, refers to one incident in the history of the City Page, the precursor of Business News. This was the exposure in 1840 by the paper of the swindler Alan Bogle, and of a remarkable fraud that could have threatened confidence. The story involved The Times in heavy legal costs, for which the paper refused reimbursement. The City, however, raised £2,700 by subscription, part of which was invested to provide Times scholarships, and part spent on two commemorative "Bogle stones". Phillips writes that The Times' position in the now building in Gray's Inn Road, but that of course was a year ago. The stone is now in place in the foyer, while in the paper's archives lies the subscription book "adorned with the names of every major merchant banker and financier."

Where are they now? An occasional series in which tales are kept on names that once made the news. It takes more than the collapse of his private company to keep Frank Sanderson down. The former head of Bovis, who nearly made it to the top of P & O back after a protracted battle in 1972, has cropped up again, this time in the unlikely guise of a director of one of the subsidiaries of cross-Channels operator, European Ferries. He is not, however, going into shipping. Although his Ambros Group, originally founded First Eleven, went into receivership at the end of last month, Sanderson is still active in construction. Ambros bought a 54 per cent stake in a printing company called Ambros Press in 1973 and Sanderson duly became chairman, making it clear at the time that he intended to diversify Lowe & Brydone into the building industry. Lowe & Brydone is now embarking upon its first big building project, a £2.4m development of 183 houses on behalf of the London Borough of Ealing. On its own, Lowe & Brydone, which had sales last year of £1.1m, would have found the project too big to handle, so Townsend Construction, the housebuilding subsidiary of European Ferries, has come in as the main developer, effectively financing the deal while

Lowes & Brydone builds. For the 15 months the building is to take, Sanderson will sit on the Townsend Construction board. Never far from controversy, however, Sanderson's latest development is meeting with some vocal opposition. Right up to the day Ambros went into receivership, when they were addressed by Sanderson and told all was well with the development, the opposing residents thought Ambros was going to be the builders. Lowe & Brydone say this is never intended. The Ambros should be involved, however, in the meantime.

Maurice Corina Industrial Editor

THE THROGMORTON SECURED GROWTH TRUST LIMITED			
INTERIM REVENUE STATEMENT			
The Board of Directors announces the following unaudited interim revenue figures of the company for the six months ended 31st January, 1976.			
	Six months to 31.1.76	Six months to 31.1.75	Year ended 31.7.75
Gross Revenue	318,075	358,631	699,025
Less: Administration	193,623	207,481	405,832
	124,452	151,150	293,203
Less: Taxation	47,923	55,963	106,595
Unappropriated Revenue brought forward	76,529	95,187	185,610
	31,175	92,065	32,065
NET REVENUE AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION	£107,704	£127,252	£218,675
Earnings per share	8.77p	9.95p	1.87p
DIVIDENDS			
Interim 2.45% (payable April) (1975-2.45%)	61,250	61,250	61,250
Final (payable November) (1975-5.05%)			126,250
COST OF DIVIDENDS	£61,250	£61,250	£187,500
Unappropriated Revenue carried forward	£46,454	£66,002	£31,175
NET ASSET VALUE	31.175	31.175	31.175
	120.4p	84.9p	73.6p

Based on middle market prices for all securities and deducting the Company's debenture stock at the middle market price.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors held today, it was resolved that an Interim Dividend of 2.45% Net (1975-2.45%) be paid on 2nd April, 1976 in respect of the year to 31st July, 1976, to shareholders on the register as at 5th March, 1976.

12th February, 1976

FINANCIAL
Coated Metals
Past Weeks

NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

lowest for some weeks

Morgan Grampian firmed 2p to 66p ahead of a Dutch approach said to be worth 70p a share. Hopes of a higher offer had Coated Metals 15p higher to 110p.

The undoubted features of the day was Dalgety, where Wednesday's interim advance added another 11p, to 249p. Inchange met with some good investment demand and added another 5p to 400p.

Other isolated features led to a higher Arab snake and James Finlay, where reorganization plans and a dividend forecast boosted the shares 3p to 127p.

Imperial Group, after the recent strength which followed results, shaded half a point to 84p as profits were taken and Channel Tunnel lost 6p to 54p for the same reason. Courtney Power 65p and Lowe & Brydone 35p were both several pence ahead at one stage on speculative demand.

Small sellers stopped an attempt by gold shares to go firmer but uranium issues met with some demand, notably Pancontinental which put on 75p to £16.50.

But tin shares again started in the sector as the metal price went up again. The best were Ayr Hitam 10p to 182p, Southern Malaysian 7p to 125p and Geveor 5p to 170p.

Back in oils, Woodside Barmaid was a new market, and jumped 7p to 113p on favourable advice from Australia.

Companies reporting results were Wades Department Stores up 4p to 44p after an interim and Secretary General up 4p to 60p on the previous day's statement. There was some disappointment at Cornacraft.

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Wardle does better, cuts its borrowing, heads for good year

Bernard Wardle, the manufacturer of pvc sheeting and vinyl coated fabrics, managed to do better in the final six months to the end of November compared with the first half. Even so the performance, which included an exceptional item, was but a shadow of previous years.

Pre-tax profits rose from £25,000 in the first half to £25,000 in the full year, but these include £165,000 compensation for delays in commissioning equipment at the Edinburgh plant. It also compares with £1m before tax made in 1974.

However, after passing the interim dividend, a final of 0.77p gross has been declared. This compares with 1.04p and a total of £55p in 1974. Overall, a group loss of £1.4m and a deficiency of £281,000 in shareholders funds.

Mr Lionel Casper, chairman of Crest, which was formerly part of the holding consortium in the failed Ashbourne affair, tells shareholders that a scheme for capital reorganization is being prepared. Mr Bernard Glazer, one of Crest's associates, is prepared to capitalize his £210,000 to the group, which arose through him paying one of its banking liabilities on lines that would make him the company's principal shareholder.

The accounts show that Mr Casper and another director, Mr Brian Simmons, have substantially reduced their shareholdings over the year. Provisions of £32,000 have been made against a £162,000 loan advanced by Crest to an associate company, Worthingmore Finance, in which Messrs Simmons and Casper are also substantial shareholders.

There are writeoffs and provisions totalling just over £1m, £705,000 of which relate to falls in the value of group investments.

Jessel deficiency approaches £15m

The deficiency of assets as regards unsecured creditors in the Jessel Securities group of companies is £14m, according to a statement of affairs from the liquidator, Mr P. Shewell, of "chartered" accountants, Coopers & Lybrand.

The principal assets remaining in the collapsed financial group are investments in four subsidiaries. Three are still trading and will be sold. These unquoted assets and loans amount to around £6.4m in value.

Upswing by Witter

A strong rally in the second half by Thomas Witter, the floor and wall covering group, leaves the pre-tax profits for the year to November 30 only 7.5 per cent down at £740,000. This was on sales of £17.8m against £15.6m, and compares with a profit slump at half time from £511,000 to £221,000. The board is holding the dividend at 3.93p gross out of earnings of 3.93p (3.3p).

New Bk of E dept

The Bank of England is forming a new department to bring together management of support services and non-staff resources. It will be called the

ISLE OF MAN ASSOC INV

Board has agreed that company should acquire from Receivers of Triumph Inv Trust 39.67 per cent of capital of Isle of Man and Estates Corp for £175,000.

ECONA

Turnover rose from £1.99m to £2.18m in half-year to September 30, but pre-tax profits fell from £153,000 to £148,000. Interim payment of 1.07p.

SAATCHI & SAATCHI COMPTON

First National Industrial Trust has sold its holding of 261,818 shares (7.4 per cent) in company. The shares were bought by Compton Advertising Inc, which now holds 19.3 per cent of company's stock.

KAKUZI

Turnover for nine months to November 30 was £2.4m and pre-tax profit, £438,000. Interim payment unchanged at 40 cents (Kenya). One-for-one scrip issue proposed. Board hopes to recommend final of not less than 60 cents on increased capital.

HIGHGATE OPTICAL

A. J. Bekhor has bought 7,000 ordinary shares in Highgate Optical at 37p on behalf of Beyline Investments.

GENERAL CONSOLIDATED INV

Revenue before tax for 1975, £855,000 (£763,000). Total dividend, 3.85p gross (3.35p). Net asset value of ordinary shares was 80p at December 31 last (40p a year earlier).

LONSDALE UNIVERSAL

Lonsdale's subsidiary, E. Bagdins and Sons, has acquired the freehold of the department store premises from which it trades at Silver St., Bedford, for £465,000.

Administration Department and be headed by Mr P. A. S. Taylor, present secretary of the Bank. The department will incorporate the secretary's department and that part of the establishment dealing with planning and budgeting of premises.

A final push at Jeff's Smurfit

Releasing its profits for the year to January 31 last, early this year (they are usually published about the end of April), Jefferson Smurfit, packaging and paper group, has achieved its objective of the second-best profits in its history.

Traditionally the second half-year is a lot better than the first. The opening spell saw a drop from £4.5m to £2.4m, but with the second six months turning in £3.56m, the total comes out at £6m compared with the record £8.1m of 1974-75. Turnover in the year was virtually stationary at £78.4m against £77m.

Net profits were £3.4m against £3.8m, on which diluted earnings a share were 13p against 14.9p. Borrowings fell from £12.1m to £3.6m. A dividend statement will be made soon. Last time the group paid 10p.

Aurora buys near 30 pc of E Sussex Eng

Aurora Holdings reports that it has bought a big stake in East Sussex Engineering Group. But, it claims, any move towards an all-out bid.

Aurora has acquired some 3.38 million ordinary shares in East Sussex (about 29.94 per cent of the equity) for around £773,000 cash. The Aurora directors "is not its present intention of the board to make an offer for the balance of East Sussex ordinary shares".

Exports fillip to Bamfords' year

A 37 per cent jump in pre-tax profits to a record £618,000 was achieved by Bamfords for the year to September 30. At the halfway stage, the board told shareholders that costs were rising and it was cautious about the return. In the event, it says the improvement is owed to higher exports, better product mix and tighter controls. This "Uitoxeter-based group makes agricultural machinery, fencing, iron castings and roofing structures."

Turnover was steady at under £11m. On a net profit of £237,000 (£216,000) the board is paying a dividend of 1.23p gross, compared with 1.12p. Sales in the first four months this year are up, but forward domestic orders are not so good because of doubts over the future agricultural policy.

W/M & Country Props

Almost halved turnover at £1.12m to £2.02m for the opening leg to October 31 saw pre-tax profit of Westminster & Country Properties slide into the red to the tune of £180,000 compared with a profit of £53,000. Turnover and a trading loss of £137,000 (profit of £292,000) and an associate loss of £43,000 (loss of £239,000). The net loss amounts to £115,000 compared with one of £158,000.

The fall in turnover was chiefly because of the fall in sales of industrial developments of about £1m. Pre-tax profit from this activity fell by £435,000.

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First National Industrial Trust has sold its holding of 261,818 shares (7.4 per cent) in company. The shares were bought by Compton Advertising Inc, which now holds 19.3 per cent of company's stock.

KAKUZI

Turnover for nine months to November 30 was £2.4m and pre-tax profit, £438,000. Interim payment unchanged at 40 cents (Kenya). One-for-one scrip issue proposed. Board hopes to recommend final of not less than 60 cents on increased capital.

HIGHGATE OPTICAL

A. J. Bekhor has bought 7,000 ordinary shares in Highgate Optical at 37p on behalf of Beyline Investments.

GENERAL CONSOLIDATED INV

Revenue before tax for 1975, £855,000 (£763,000). Total dividend, 3.85p gross (3.35p). Net asset value of ordinary shares was 80p at December 31 last (40p a year earlier).

LONSDALE UNIVERSAL

Lonsdale's subsidiary, E. Bagdins and Sons, has acquired the freehold of the department store premises from which it trades at Silver St., Bedford, for £465,000.

Direct Spanish policy changes

A fall in net revenue from £460,000 to £304,000 for the year to December 31 is the news from Direct Spanish Telegraph. It blames the drop on a big fall in liquidity, lower interest rates and, the restructuring of the portfolio. The cut in liquidity reflected the repayment of loans and a switch to Stock Exchange investment.

Pre-tax revenue fell from £751,000 to £374,000, but the unaudited net asset value of each ordinary share at December 31 was 57.3p, a rise of 31.1 per cent. The year's payment is 5.85p gross against 5.8p. The Slater, Walker holding in DST now stands at about 27 per cent.

John James rewarded by watching pennies

By Peter Elliott

By "watching every penny" and pushing exports, the John James Group of Companies hoisted pre-tax profits by 9 per cent to £757,000 in the half year to September 30. The board says that turnover rose by 25 per cent to £5.9m, but price controls pressed on margins. Even so, the improvement is being maintained.

Last year's performance was better than expected with pre-tax profits climbing 20 per cent to a record £1.68m. The improvement, according to Mr John James, chairman, stemmed from "initiative". Better

results from its toy manufacturing concerns, Tehbutt & Hall Bros and H. J. Godwin, also helped. Both companies recovered well from the three-week weak and increased exports by 56 per cent. The chairman says that this trend has continued.

Last September, the board announced plans to consolidate all shares into one class to maintain group status as an investment trust after March 31. By putting together all their deferred shares and their 74 per cent "A" share stake, the directors and family will raise their voting strength from 62 per cent to 67.

MINERALS AND RESOURCES CORPORATION LIMITED

(Incorporated in Bermuda)

Report for the Half-Year Ended 31st December, 1975

The following are the unaudited results of Minerals and Resources Corporation Limited (Minoro) and its subsidiaries for the half-year ended 31st December, 1975, together with the comparative figures for the half-year ended 31st December, 1974 and the year ended 30th June, 1975. These should be read in conjunction with the adjoining notes:

	Half-Year Ended 31.12.75	Half-Year Ended 31.12.74	Year Ended 30.6.75
	US\$000s	US\$000s	US\$000s
Investment income:			
Dividends from investments (Note 1)	3 629	6 345	10 431
Interest and net sundry income (Note 3)	1 489	3 430	6 781
	5 118	9 775	17 212
Deduct:			
Administration and other expenses	711	661	1 431
Interest paid	192	255	365
Provision against prospecting investments (Note 6) ..	1 600	2 503	3 523
	2 503	2 516	5 319
Profit before taxation	2 615	7 259	11 893
Foreign taxation (after adjustment for previous year) ..	30	94	476
Profit after taxation	2 585	7 165	11 417
Add: Transfer from prospecting reserve	—	—	323
Loss (Profit) arising from currency realignments ..	252	(1)	1 101
Less: Transfer from (to) currency reserve	(252)	1	(1 101)
Unappropriated profit brought forward	14 207	12 541	12 541
Adjustment thereto arising from currency fluctuations ..	84	—	252
	14 291	12 541	13 116
Available for appropriation ..	16 876	19 706	24 533
Appropriations:			
Transfer to capital reserve	169	—	—
Dividends:			
"A" ordinary shareholders (Note 4)	3 437	3 407	5 892
Ordinary shareholders	Nil	2 534	4 434
	—	(8 cents)	(14 cents)
Unappropriated profit carried forward	13 270	13 765	14 207
	16 876	19 706	24 533

Notes:

1. DIVIDENDS

The lower overall profits for the six months to 31st December, 1975 resulted mainly from reduced dividend income from the corporation's investments in copper. If the net dividend income received by the corporation from Engelhard Minerals & Chemicals Corporation and attributable to the "A" ordinary shareholders (see below) is excluded, the past six months resulted in a loss of approximately US\$352,000 attributable to the ordinary shares. Accordingly, no dividend has been declared on the ordinary shares.

In terms of the conditions of issue of the "A" ordinary shares of Minoro, the dividends totalling US\$3 461 538 received from Engelhard Minerals & Chemicals Corporation (EMC) were passed on, after deduction of expenses attributable thereto, to the holders of the "A" ordinary shares (see Note 4). The special arrangements relating to the "A" shares will terminate after the payment of any final dividends for the year ending 30th June, 1976 on the ordinary and/or "A" ordinary shares whereupon the "A" shares will become ordinary shares.

Minoro holds a 49.98 per cent interest in Zambia Copper Investments Limited (ZCI) which in turn holds a 49 per cent interest in Nchanga Consolidated Copper Mines Limited (NCCM) and a 12.25 per cent interest in Roan Consolidated Mines Limited (RCM). No dividends were declared by NCCM or RCM for the quarter ended 30th September, 1975, and there has been no change in the situation regarding the dividends previously paid to ZCI by NCCM and RCM which in terms of Zambian regulations are awaiting externalisation.

2. LOAN TO ZCI

ZCI has been obliged as one of the principal shareholders in Botswana RST Limited (BRST), to provide substantial shareholders' loans to that company to enable it to meet its funding requirements to Bamangwato Concessions Limited, in which BRST holds an 85 per cent interest. This fact, combined with the inability of the Bank of Zambia to externalise on due date dividends received in Zambia by ZCI from NCCM and RCM (paragraph 3 of Note 1 refers), has severely strained ZCI's liquidity. To avert this, therefore, the corporation has made loans at commercial rates of interest to ZCI. These loans, which are repayable before any further dividends are paid by ZCI, totalled US\$3 768 782 at 31st December, 1975.

3. INTEREST RECEIVED

Interest includes interest received from ZCI in respect of loans per Note 2 above.

4. "A" SHARES

a) Net profit attributable to the "A" ordinary shareholders is as follows:

Dividends from EMC	US\$3 461 538
Less: Expenses directly attributable to "A" ordinary shareholders plus amount retained	US\$ 24 887
Net profit distributed as to (h) below	US\$3 436 671

b) Dividends on "A" ordinary shares:

No 5 of 3.65 cents (US) a share declared 29th September, 1975	US\$1 529 738
No 6 of 4.55 cents (US) a share declared 16th December, 1975	US\$1 906 933
	US\$3 436 671

5. SMIT COPPER PROJECT IN ZAIRE

The attention of members is directed to the announcement published in the Press on 24th January, 1976 referring to the temporary suspension of the development of the Tenke-Fungurume project in Zaire.

Since the agreement for Minoro to acquire from Charter Consolidated Limited a participation in this project was conditional upon the completion of the financing, this arrangement now lapses. When the project goes ahead a participation for Minoro will be considered afresh.

6. PROSPECTING INVESTMENTS

The item "Provision against prospecting investments" represents a proportion of the estimated prospecting expenditure to be written off against profits earned in the year ending 30th June, 1976.

DIRECTORATE

At the Annual General Meeting held on 16th October, 1975 all the directors of the corporation were re-elected and the Board thereafter re-elected Mr. W. D. Wilcox and Mr. S. Spiro, M.C., as President and Vice-President, respectively, to hold office until the next Annual General Meeting.

On 12th February, 1976, Mr. N. K. Kirkwood, M.C., resigned from the board and Mr. J. D. Taylor, Q.C., was appointed a director in his stead.

By order of the Board
W. D. Wilcox
G. W. H. Kelly

Registered Office:
Charter Consolidated Limited,
P.O. Box 102,
Charter House, Park Street,
Ashford, Kent TN24 8EQ.
Pembroke,
P.O. Box 650 Hamilton 51
Bermuda.

S.A. Registrars:
Consolidated Share Registrars Limited,
62, Marshall Street,
Johannesburg 2001
(P.O. Box 61051 Marshalltown 2107)

12th February, 1976.

very at Pride but s a pause

shows a gain of 138 per cent on the year and is a record for the group.

The turnover includes a rise of £160,000 in sales to the hire purchase companies, which reached £855,000. Earnings rose from 11.5p to 30.1p a share.

In 1975-76, profits were sliced to £55,000 before Mr. A. Clarke, chairman, told shareholders that the setback reflected credit restrictions and dear money.

The results reported for the year saw a return to the profit totals of the early 1970s. Mr. Clarke, in business since 1921, obtained the Toyota concession in September 1967.

passes interim

Investments which has also passed its interim dividend, compared with 4 cents, having also passed its final dividend for last year.

ZCI has a 12 per cent stake in Botswana RST and has had to provide it with "substantial" loans to enable it to meet funding requirements. Since ZCI has not had approval for the externalisation of £11.3m, it would have had to "severely strain" ZCI's liquidity.

forcing it to borrow from shareholders. At the end of December these borrowings stood at \$3,769m.

Arthur Lee & Sons Ltd.

oldest of Bright Bars, Cold Rolled Strip, in Carbon and Stainless Steels.

ted 30th September 1975

42,245,000 43,030,000

1,385,205 3,652,346

149,614 1,141,806

1.83p 4.41p

1.15p 1.384p

THE STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN, SIR WILTON LEE

ed virtually steady in monetary terms over the last six months and a substantial reduction in the amount of the charge for the year.

reduced the dividend was taken with obviously the Board's duty to maintain the h for the future. In this connection, special made of the charge for Additional nt Replacement Basis) which amounted to

once, demand for strip products has here are tentative signs of an uplift, demand however, remains weak. The market for bars, sheet at low levels, and our Stockholding, albeit profitably. It is, however, only in the we have an order book which enables us to favourably.

hal investment has been undertaken in 10 benefits of our Thin Strip Development. nely £1.5m) in particular, have yet to be felt. is restored a significant contribution to overall cted to accrue from such expenditure.

st and Accounts may be obtained from the 1x 64, Sheffield S9 1HU.

Latest dividends

Year ago	Pay date	Year's total	Prev Year
0.75	—	0.8	0.75
0.7	—	1.25	1.2
2.5	26/3	4.5	4.25
2.82	—	2.60	2.58
1.74	2/4	2.45	2.30
2.75	—	3.8	3.8
0.87	31/3	—	2.09
7.9c	29/3	12c	11.5c
43c	15/3	—	\$1.72
0.69	9/4	—	1.70
0.58	2/4	—	2.3
2.3	2/4	13.76	10.52
1.25	2/4	—	3.56
5.7	6/4	9.6	8.5
1.9	9/4	2.56	2.63
1.03	8/4	—	2.24

Each tax on 100 pence per share. Else
share shown on a gross basis. To
be paid by 1.54. *For 15 months.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Alfa-Laval ahead but Saab-Scania slips up

Mixed 1975 results came from two of Sweden's largest concerns, Saab-Scania and Alfa-Laval. Car, truck and plane maker Saab-Scania reports pre-tax profits down a bit at 333m Kronor (£38.4m), but general engineer Alfa-Laval raised pre-tax profits by 5 per cent to 270m Kronor (£30.6m).

Saab-Scania's 1975 profits compare with 241m Kronor the year before. Group sales stood at 7,860m Kronor against 6,533m. The Data-Saab division scored a 46 per cent increase to 430m Kronor. Sales of the

Overseas

Scania truck division rose by 23 per cent to 3,630m Kronor, and car sales went ahead by 21 per cent to 2,615m Kronor. The division's 11 Kronor against 11 Kronor last year was 513m Kronor against 312m. It went mainly on property, plant equipment and market organisation.

Alfa-Laval's bigger profits came from turnover up by 11 per cent to 3,500m Kronor. The board plans a one-for-four scrip issue at 75 Kronor a share, which will increase the share capital from 333.25m Kronor to 416.56m. The board is paying a dividend of 5 Kronor. The previous year's payment was 4 Kronor, allowing for a one-for-four scrip issue and a change in share value.

Abercom predict higher payout

On turnover up from £26.37m to £50.76m (about £26m), pre-tax profit of Abercom Investments, the South African industrial and financial holding company, expanded by 29 per cent to £5.53m (£3.19m) in the six months ended December 31. A total dividend of not less than 23.5 pence is forecast for the year (against 26 pence).

Commenting on the second half, the directors state that the group's contract engineering companies remain "very busy" while other subsidiaries supplying consumer and house-hold durables are experiencing very competitive and slightly recessed conditions.

Turnover and profit were at record levels, they report, although the newly-acquired Hunslet Taylor operation added very little to profit in spite of substantial turnover contributions.

Amey makes big US acquisition

Kyle, a concrete product manufacturer in Atlanta, Georgia, has been acquired for an undisclosed sum by Amey Roadstone of America, an offshoot of the United Kingdom based Amey Roadstone (ARC), which is itself part of the Gold Fields group.

The Kyle acquisition marks another step by Gold Fields to expand in the United States in an attempt to even up its four geographical operations based on the United Kingdom, South Africa, Australia and the United States.

Amey's United States subsidiary is fairly new, and the purchase of Kyle, which has an annual turnover of about \$25m (£12.5m), follows that of Cement Products of Florida.

Pan American to cut first quarter loss

Pan American World Airways expects its loss for the March quarter to be less than the year-ago loss of \$59m—the worst ever—Mr William Seal, chairman, told reporters in New York.

He said that although Pan-Am should lose money and the first five months of 1976 through the seasonal nature of its markets, there was a reasonable chance that the line could break even, or make money in the full year if world economies improved sufficiently and rate increases were adequate. For 1975 as a whole the company lost \$46m—Reuters.

Bank Base Rates

Barclays Bank	9 1/2%
First London Sec	9 1/2%
C. Hoare & Co	9 1/2%
Lloyds Bank	9 1/2%
Midland Bank	9 1/2%
Nat Westminster	9 1/2%
Rossminster ACC's	9 1/2%
Shenley Trust	11 1/2%
Williams & Glyn's	9 1/2%

* 7-day deposits on sums of £10,000 and under. 3 1/2% up to £25,000. 4%, over £25,000. 4 1/2%.

OW=Domestic issue. K=Kiddier. S=Securities. L=London.

M. J. H. NIGHTINGALE & CO LIMITED
62-63 Threadneedle Street, London EC2R 8HP Tel: 01-638 8651

1976/75	High	Low	Company	1975/74	High	Low	Company
46	25	Armitage & Rhodes	34	—	3.0	8.0	9.0
104	94	Debenhams Services	104	—	7.5	7.2	5.5
147	115	Henry Sykes	147	—	4.9	3.4	9.8
35	48	Twinlock Ord	22	—	0.9	4.2	5.4
66	15	Twinkl 12% ULS	66	—	1.1	12.0	18.2
63	48	Unilock Holdings	62	—	4.5	7.3	12.0

Commodities

COPPER was firmer, cash wire bars pulling up 20 and three months advancing 10 to 20.00. The market was active, with a large lot of 10,000 tons being sold at 20.00. The market was active, with a large lot of 10,000 tons being sold at 20.00. The market was active, with a large lot of 10,000 tons being sold at 20.00.

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COPPER was firmer, cash wire bars pulling up 20 and three months advancing 10 to 20.00. The market was active, with a large lot of 10,000 tons being sold at 20.00. The market was active, with a large lot of 10,000 tons being sold at 20.00.

LEAD was firmer, cash wire bars pulling up 20 and three months advancing 10 to 20.00. The market was active, with a large lot of 10,000 tons being sold at 20.00. The market was active, with a large lot of 10,000 tons being sold at 20.00.

WHEAT was firmer, cash wire bars pulling up 20 and three months advancing 10 to 20.00. The market was active, with a large lot of 10,000 tons being sold at 20.00. The market was active, with a large lot of 10,000 tons being sold at 20.00.

COAL was firmer, cash wire bars pulling up 20 and three months advancing 10 to 20.00. The market was active, with a large lot of 10,000 tons being sold at 20.00. The market was active, with a large lot of 10,000 tons being sold at 20.00.

IRON was firmer, cash wire bars pulling up 20 and three months advancing 10 to 20.00. The market was active, with a large lot of 10,000 tons being sold at 20.00. The market was active, with a large lot of 10,000 tons being sold at 20.00.

STEEL was firmer, cash wire bars pulling up 20 and three months advancing 10 to 20.00. The market was active, with a large lot of 10,000 tons being sold at 20.00. The market was active, with a large lot of 10,000 tons being sold at 20.00.

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Foreign Exchange

Leading central banks in Europe continue to intervene in the foreign exchange market to support the franc and defend the maximum fluctuation limits of the European joint float

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Stock Exchange Prices

Quiet session

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Feb 9. Dealings End, Feb 20, 5 Contango Day, Feb 23. Settlement Day, Mar 2
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

Get quoted in The Times.

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THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL				INSURANCE				PROPERTY				RUBBER				TEA				MISCELLANEOUS				SHIPPING				MINES				FINANCIAL TRUSTS			
Company	Price	Change	% P/E	Company	Price	Change	% P/E	Company	Price	Change	% P/E	Company	Price	Change	% P/E	Company	Price	Change	% P/E	Company	Price	Change	% P/E	Company	Price	Change	% P/E	Company	Price	Change	% P/E	Company	Price	Change	% P/E
AAI	100	0	0	AAI	100	0	0	AAI	100	0	0	AAI	100	0	0	AAI	100	0	0	AAI	100	0	0	AAI	100	0	0	AAI	100	0	0	AAI	100	0	0
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"THOUGH I walk in the midst of trouble, and my heart is troubled, yet will I say, 'I will not be moved.'"

BIRTHS

BLAKELEY—On 9th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Blakeley, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

BRIDGEMAN—On 11th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Bridgeman, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

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BIRTHDAYS

TUTTING—I love you, Happy Birthday, kisses from Tutting.

DEATHS

ARDLEY—On 11th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Ardley, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

BRIDGEMAN—On 11th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Bridgeman, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

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IN MEMORIAM

MERCY, FRANCES HUGH—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Mercy, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

J. B. KENYON Ltd.—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Kenyon, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A WILL IS YOUR—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Will, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

SAVE THE CHILDREN

Save the Children—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Save, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

WITHOUT YOUR HELP

Without your help—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Without, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

WORLD'S NO. 1 KILLER

World's No. 1 Killer—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. World, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION

British Heart Foundation—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. British, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

CANCER RESEARCH

Cancer Research—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Cancer, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

SOLUTIONS TO ENERGY CONSERVATION IN BUILDINGS EXHIBITION

Solutions to Energy Conservation—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Solutions, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN

Cancer Research Campaign—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Cancer, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

ABSENT MINDED LOVERS

Absent Minded Lovers—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Absent, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

Have you remembered that tomorrow is St Valentine's Day?

Have you remembered that tomorrow is St Valentine's Day?—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Have, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

ARE YOU A HUNTER?

Are you a Hunter?—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Are, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

RESEARCHER for new publishing venture seeks views and hints from those who are confident in their own writing

Researcher for new publishing venture—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Researcher, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

CAN YOU SPARE ONE DIME?

Can you spare one dime?—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Can, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

DRUGS TO BE USED IN THE FUTURE

Drugs to be used in the future—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Drugs, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

ENGLISH TUITION

English Tuition—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. English, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

ARRIVING IN MANCHESTER

Arriving in Manchester—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Arriving, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

PROPERTY INVESTMENT IN SWITZERLAND

Property Investment in Switzerland—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Property, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

MUSIC STUDIOS for adults

Music Studios for adults—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Music, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

CONVERTED TO CATHOLIC

Converted to Catholic—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Converted, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

PARISHSHIP SECRETARY

Parishship Secretary—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Parishship, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION

Immediate Possession—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Immediate, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

THE LONDON PROGRAMME

The London Programme—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. The, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

Why You Should Spend the Budget You Don't Have on Selling Your Conference Facilities for 1976

Why You Should Spend the Budget You Don't Have on Selling Your Conference Facilities for 1976—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Why, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

BY USING

By using—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. By, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

The Times Guide to Conference Facilities

The Times Guide to Conference Facilities—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. The, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

on February 18th.

On February 18th.—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. On, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

Cost conscious companies are looking around for the best value for money conference facilities.

Cost conscious companies are looking around for the best value for money conference facilities.—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Cost, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

We publish a newspaper for businessmen; read by the men who hold the purse strings.

We publish a newspaper for businessmen; read by the men who hold the purse strings.—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. We, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

Convince him that a conference at your venue will produce profit for his company.

Convince him that a conference at your venue will produce profit for his company.—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Convince, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

Advertising this year must be selective and cost effective.

Advertising this year must be selective and cost effective.—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Advertising, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

Select The Times for cost effective advertising.

Select The Times for cost effective advertising.—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Select, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

And that is only part of the story.

And that is only part of the story.—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. And, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.

Ring April Feature for the "happy ever after" ending

Ring April Feature for the "happy ever after" ending—On 12th February, 1976, to Mr and Mrs J. Ring, a daughter, Jane Elizabeth.